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CPRF MEMORANDUM CONDEMNS U.S. 'WAR MANEUVERS'

SK092200 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0900 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Memorandum issued by the CPRF on 6 February in Pyongyang -- read by announcer]

[Text] In connection with the fact that the U.S. imperialists have turned South Korea into the most dangerous source of a nuclear war in the world and have further strengthened a very adventurous maneuver to provoke a nuclear war -- a maneuver to implement their Asian strategy -- the CPRF has issued the following memorandum indicting the rascals' criminal acts:

Because of the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists to provoke a new war, the danger of a nuclear war has further increased on the Korean peninsula.

Despite the proposal of the government of the republic for stopping, beginning 1 February, large-scale military exercises in order to achieve peace and the peaceful reunification of Korea, and for suspending all military exercises during the period when North-South dialogue is being held, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have decided to once again stage the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit." As a result, dialogue was immediately suspended and tension heightened once again. Having reached agreement on preventing a nuclear war at the USSR-U.S. summit talks held in Geneva, the United States, at the outset of the new year, has continuously deployed nuclear equipment in South Korea, running counter to the atmosphere of the North-South dialogue in Korea, and it is trying to kick up very adventurous war exercise rackets in the direction of provoking a nuclear war. This is a maneuver designed to disturb peace; a maneuver that is contradictory to the spirit of the agreement at the USSR-U.S. talks and to the demand and interest of the people of the world, who have, at the United Nations, designated this year as the Year of International Peace; and a grave act of challenge, which runs counter to the North-South dialogue in Korea, to the alleviation of tension, and to peaceful reunification.

The CPRF issues this memorandum to indict to the world the criminal acts of the U.S. imperialists in turning South Korea into the most dangerous nuclear base and into the source of a nuclear war and in further strengthening maneuvers to provoke a nuclear war in order to implement an aggressive Asian strategy.

1. What is the aim of the U.S. imperialists?

The question of turning South Korea into a nuclear base has become greater since the seizure of power by the present U.S. ruling circles. The present U.S. ruling circles, which have a special interest in the Asian and Pacific region, are trying to implement their policy of attaching importance to Asia by attaching great military and strategic significance to this region and by organizing, in particular, South Korea, which is linked to the Asian Continent, into a nuclear forward base.

During his visit to South Korea in November 1983, Reagan said that security in South Korea is directly linked to the security of the United States, thus officially declaring that South Korea will become a strategic base for the United States, which is directly confronting socialist countries. As a result, the defense report and the annual report on the military situation in 1984 stipulated that along with NATO, South Korea is the first frontline in the global strategy framework, thus officially recognizing the strategical importance of South Korea. Brzezinski, former assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs, said that the basic direction of U.S. policy is now rapidly shifting toward the Pacific region.

U.S. Secretary of State Shultz said that the 21st century will become the world of the Pacific Ocean and that the center of the world's strength is shifting to the Pacific Ocean from the Atlantic Ocean. These remarks concisely reflect the U.S. imperialists' policy of attaching importance to Asia. -- South Korean paper TONG-A ILBO, 28 February 1984

That the question of turning South Korea into a nuclear base has become greater is also because Reagan's policy itself is one primarily concerned with nuclear weaponry.

Strength first, and strength second as well is Reagan's motto, and control over opponents through nuclear supremacy is his political program.

Foreign news media have described the incumbent U.S. Government as a government of nuclear fanatics who came to the White House by stimulating the monopolistic enterprises with election promises on reconstructing the mighty United States on the basis of absolute nuclear superiority. -- Japanese magazine (SENGEI), May issue, 1982

The nuclear strategy pursued by the incumbent U.S. Government is an undisguised nuclear implementation strategy. The Japanese magazine ECONOMIST, in its June 1983 issue, said that the nuclear implementation strategy which assumes the theory of limited nuclear war based on the superiority of nuclear weapons and the theory of pre-emptive attack based on the detailed missiles drawing as its basic line has become a policy of the incumbent U.S. Government for basic nuclear strategy.

The basic line of the U.S. imperialists' nuclear implementation strategy is, above all, the limited nuclear war strategy. In a White House press conference on 10 November 1981, Reagan officially suggested a limited nuclear war strategy, noting that tactical nuclear weapons may be used in the battlefield like guns although strategic nuclear weapons may not be used.

Laroque, a retired U.S. rear admiral, said that the emergency on the Korean peninsula can possibly be developed into a limited nuclear war. -- Japan ASAHI SHIMBUN, 21 November 1981

The U.S. imperialists established an aerial electronic surveillance post in Taegu, which can command and supervise a nuclear war, in order to provoke a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula. They also deployed a most-modern type of electronic radar known to be capable of detecting and chasing all airplanes within a 4-km aerial perimeter as an advance warning system for a nuclear missile offensive and a comprehensive electronic computer in South Korea.

Another factor constituting the basic contents of the U.S. imperialists' nuclear implementation strategy is the strategy of pre-emptive attack.

Dallinger, an antiwar activist in the United States, exposed that the United States is seeking a nuclear war in order to overcome the extreme despair and disorder, and this is none other than the strategy of pre-emptive attack, and that even research revealing this, in which some several million Americans may die, is under way. -- Japanese magazine GENDAI NO ME, March 1982.

The U.S. Defense Department is building air and underground emergency nuclear war command posts in accordance with the strategy of pre-emptive attack. Since he came to office, Reagan has had four special airplanes capable of flying for 16 hours without refuelling on a 24-hour standby for flights in case of an emergency, at Andrews Air Force Base, 15 km southeast of Washington.

The president is supposed to give operational commands while flying on these special airplanes. Five hundred people can board these special airplanes and the list is being kept in absolute secrecy. -- South Korean Magazine KUKJE MUNJE, October 1981

After this, the U.S. imperialists established the North American Air Defense Command underground in the outskirts of Colorado Springs, Colorado, in the Rocky Mountains, assuming a counterattack when they launch a pre-emptive attack.

The command post, built by penetrating through granite, is three stories, 500 meters underground. Some 2,000 people can engage in activities for 10 months in this command post. In addition, there is the Strategic Air Command, three stories above the ground and four under, at Offutt Base on the outskirts of Omaha, Nebraska.

When a nuclear war breaks out, activities can be carried out in the three stories underground that are sealed from the outside. -- Japanese magazine MONTHLY SOCIALIST PARTY, August 1983

The June 1983 issue of the Japanese magazine SHUKAN ASAHI reported: There are two White Houses in Washington. One is deep within Mt Weather, 90 kms northwest of Washington. Those authorized entry here are high-ranking officials of the White House who will carry out the intelligence function to the end. A special identification card with a photo is given to them. The list of these people is top secret.

Not ending with the establishment of a strategic command for a nuclear war, the U.S. imperialists are running amok to assume a combat ready posture, placing 60 percent of the entire Air Force on alert. One hundred percent of the nuclear strategic units have assumed a combat ready posture in which they can fire nuclear missiles within a minute after receiving an order.

Having deployed a new 2-dimensional communications system to cope with a nuclear war, the U.S. imperialists have appointed a supreme commander to take command over a nuclear war and even 16 legal successors. Furthermore, the U.S. imperialists have worked out secret passwords to be used when they hand down an order to fire nuclear missiles.

About this, the Voice of America reported on 16 June 1983 as follows: A military assistant carrying a black bag always follows the U.S. President. He boards the presidential plane and assumes a standby posture even near the bedroom of the President. His black bag contains the top secret password for the President to use when issuing the order to fire nuclear missiles. Because of such a nuclear war frenzy by the U.S. imperialists, South Korea has been reduced to a nuclear strategic base.

2. Why do they drag in strategic weapons? It is well known to the entire world that today South Korea has been turned into a nuclear arsenal and an exhibition ground of various nuclear weapons of the U.S. imperialists.

Even according to data officially released by the enemy in 1976, 152 nuclear shells for the 155-mm gun, 56 nuclear shells for the 8-inch gun, 54 nuclear shells for the 175-mm gun, 92 aircraft-borne nuclear bombs, 144 Nike Hercules anti-aircraft missiles, 80 Honest John ground-to-ground missiles, 12 ground-to-ground missiles for small combat, 12 Lance ground-to-ground missiles, 48 F-4 fighter-bombers capable of nuclear delivery, and 25-30 nuclear mines are being deployed in South Korea. -- JIJI, 9 February 1986 from Washington

This means that, on the average, more than one nuclear weapon is being deployed in every 100 sq km in South Korea which is quadruple the density of the NATO area, where one nuclear weapon is deployed in every 400 sq km. Thus, facts and figures show that South Korea has been turned into a most dangerous nuclear forward base and all of South Korea has become one huge depot of nuclear bombs.

Only a few of these nuclear bombs would be sufficient for the U.S. imperialists to launch a nuclear attack on the northern half of the republic. In spite of this, the U.S. imperialists are further strengthening the maneuvers for reinforcing nuclear forces in South Korea. What is the reason for this? This is because they are attempting to make South Korea a nuclear forward base for implementing their Asian strategy.

The U.S. imperialists deployed the neutron bombs, which are called the devil's weapon of the 20th century, in South Korea before any others. The neutron bombs are mass destruction weapons designed to kill only human beings with neutrons. Thus, they faced strong rejection by the entire world even from the stage of planning and development, and their production was begun in August 1981 by Reagan after production had been suspended for many years.

Having already obtained an active agreement from the Chon Tu-hwan clique, the United States has deployed the neutron bombs in South Korea. -- NEW KOREA TIMES, 7 May 1982

The U.S. imperialists replaced 105-mm howitzers possessed by two artillery brigades belonging to the 2d Infantry Division of the U.S. aggressor forces in South Korea with the most modern type of 155-mm howitzers capable of firing neutron bombs. Having decided to replace the F-4 fighter-bombers, which were the mainstay airplanes of the U.S. Air Force, with F-16 fighter-bombers capable of carrying neutron bombs, the U.S. imperialists already deployed scores of airplanes.

After declaring South Korea as the first line of the U.S. strategy, the current U.S. ruling circles are increasing and deploying new theater and strategic nuclear weapons in and around South Korea. With the plan to turn South Korea from a tactical nuclear base into a strategic nuclear base, the U.S. imperialists are deploying short-range nuclear missiles, semi-medium-range nuclear missiles (800 to 2,400 km), medium-range nuclear missiles (2,400 to 6,400 km), and long-range nuclear missiles, some loaded with many nuclear warheads.

South Korea's TONG-A ILBO reported in its 8 July 1981 issue that the U.S. imperialists have decided to deploy new theater nuclear weapons in South Korea, and the Japanese magazine TZUKURU reported in its February 1984 issue that in November 1983, Reagan decided to drag B-52 strategic bombers into South Korea from Anderson Air Force Base in Guam. The B-52 is one of three major pillars for strategic nuclear weapons.

As a British weekly exposed, the U.S. imperialists even established a plan to deploy ground-launched cruise missiles in South Korea. -- South Korea's CHOSON ILBO, 1 May 1984

On the pretext of coping with an emergency, the U.S. imperialists dragged nuclear weapons and nuclear equipment into South Korea from the U.S. mainland and the Pacific area several times every year, and are deploying them there.

In 1984 alone, the U.S. imperialists dragged into South Korea, with unusual frequency, B-52 strategic bombers, F-111 fighter bombers, A-6 and A-7 planes, and such nuclear aircraft carriers as the Enterprise, the Midway, and the Carl Vinson.

In this connection, the April 1984 edition of TONGIL PYONGYANG, a magazine published in Japan, revealed the following: As shown by recent "Team Spirit" exercises, new-type nuclear weapons have been introduced into South Korea and have been used in an exercise to counter (?contingency) whenever exercises have been waged, and an F-111 unit in the U.S. mainland and a B-52 strategic bombers unit in Guam have participated in exercises every year. Also, the Midway, a major nuclear aircraft carrier of the U.S. 7th Fleet, has been frequently dispatched to South Korea with Pusan as its second mother port.

In light of these facts, it can be said that the possible deployment number of nuclear weapons in South Korea even far exceeds the actual number. The U.S. imperialists have drastically augmented and deployed warships lodged with nuclear weapons and warplanes, which will be concentrated on South Korea in case of an emergency, in U.S. forces bases around the Korean peninsula.

In particular, the U.S. imperialists are hellbent on deployment in the sea, saying that, unlike in Europe where ground warfare is a basic type, offensives from the sea are basic in Asia. Since 1984, the U.S. imperialists, who deployed some 6,500 nuclear weapons in the Pacific fleet -- a main force of nuclear armed forces deployed in Asia and the Pacific -- have quickly augmented the nuclear armed forces of the 7th Fleet -- 23 February 1986 edition of ASAHI SHIMBUN of Japan

In the U.S. defense report for fiscal 1984, the U.S. imperialists increased by one the number of mobile units of the fleet, which carry out constant activities, from two in the past to three, by stationing an aircraft carrier in the East Sea of Korea, saying that (?flexible) operations should be conducted.

In 1987, they are trying to deploy in the Pacific fleet the Nimitz a nuclear aircraft carrier which now belongs to the 6th Fleet, the Mediterranean fleet -- Japan's NIPPON HOSO KYOKAI, 29 April 1983

Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialists have deployed long-range cruise missiles in Asia and the Pacific. On 27 June 1984, the Pentagon disclosed that sea-launched cruise missiles, a modern weapon of the Navy, have already been deployed in the Pacific fleet and nuclear land attack Tomahawk cruise missiles have been deployed in four submarines in Asia and the Pacific. The U.S. imperialists are planning to deploy Tomahawk cruise missiles in 41 major warships, including 23 attack submarines, 2 cruisers, a battleship, and 15 destroyers, in the Pacific fleet, and to deploy them in 150 ships until the end of the 1980's. In 1981, the U.S. imperialists began to replace 10 ballistic missile submarines of the 15th Submarine Corps, with the Apraq Harbor in Guam as its base, with Trident submarines, more sophisticated submarines. In 1983, they replaced 14 B-52 strategic bombers at the (Dawin) base in Australia with B-52 strategic bombers, which are capable of loading cruise missiles. In the wake of this, they are planning to replace B-52 strategic bombers with B-1's.

By drastically deploying theater and strategic nuclear missiles in Asia and the Pacific with South Korea as a main axis, the U.S. imperialists have put even central Asian regions, not to speak of the northern half of the republic, within the range of their fire, and plan to expand a war into a global war if one breaks out in Korea. As a result of this, South Korea has been turned into a forward nuclear base to carry out the U.S. imperialists' strategy toward Asia.

3. Where will a nuclear war break out?

Today, the dark cloud of nuclear war looms heavily over the world because of the U.S. imperialists. It has been a long time since the question of where a nuclear war will first break out became the focus of discussion as a matter of concern of international political affairs.

In the spring of 1982, the Swedish Royal Scientific Research Academy collected materials regarding nuclear war with the help of 18 international affairs specialists, and put forth the theory of outbreak in the Far East -- a theory that nuclear war will begin in the Far East. At that time, a Japanese magazine said that the United States is trying to adopt as a site of nuclear war not Europe but Asia and Korea -- the May 1985 edition of (GENDAINOME), a Japanese magazine.

Why did both the East and West of the world accept the theory that nuclear war would break out in the Far East and view no other place in the Far East but Korea as the place of outbreak? This is connected with the U.S. imperialists' undisguised proclamation of the Korean peninsula as the testing ground for the showdown of the 1980's. It is not accidental that, having decided Korea as a testing ground of a decisive war for supremacy over Asia and the world and having provoked a war of aggression against the northern half of the republic in the 1950's, the U.S. imperialists have, once again today, proclaimed the Korean peninsula to be the testing ground for the showdown of the 1980's. This was an open declaration of the provocation of a new nuclear war in Korea.

The Korean peninsula was chosen as an object of nuclear attack in a White House nuclear war exercise, which was waged with the codename [word indistinct] at the underground operational room of the White House for 3 days beginning on 1 March 1982. Remarks confirming this were first made by the incumbent U.S. President. In the wake of the U.S. President's harsh remarks that the use of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula in case of an emergency will not be excluded, Meyer, the U.S. Army chief of staff, babbled that nuclear weapons will be used in Korea for contingency purposes, and U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, in a defense report of 1983, said that a nuclear attack should be conducted against North Korea -- No 1 radio of South Korea on 13 January 1983 and the 24 January 1983 edition of TONG-A ILBO

The U.S. imperialists' scheme to provoke a nuclear war in Asia and, in particular, in Korea is also their policy of racial contempt. Proceeding from racial discrimination against Asians, the incumbent U.S. ruling circle, a group of heinous racists, takes Asia rather than Europe and particularly the Korean peninsula as the most proper place to use nuclear weapons.

The U.S. imperialists can unhesitatingly impose nuclear calamities on Asians and think that, even though Asians will become the victim of their nuclear war, there is no need to feel uneasy. The U.S. imperialists are instinctively hesitant to use nuclear weapons against the white people in Europe, but, as shown by nuclear attacks on Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Bikini Island, they do not even feel any sense of morality in using nuclear weapons against Asians -- the August 1983 edition of MONTHLY SOCIALIST PARTY, a Japanese magazine

Proceeding from this, the U.S. imperialists have unhesitatingly introduced neutron bombs, rejected all over the world, into South Korea for the first time, and are scheming to test the first murder with them on the densely populated Korean peninsula. With this in mind, (Gohan), a U.S. strategic affairs researcher, said that the place where utility value is high is Asia and South Korea in particular will provide a favorable opportunity, and Jack Anderson, a U.S. columnist, said that the Korean peninsula is becoming the most possible area among the areas where neutron bombs can be used -- the May 1982 edition of (SENMEI), a Japanese magazine, and the 3 July 1982 edition of SEOUL SINMUN, a newspaper of South Korea

To use nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, the U.S. imperialists have very much simplified the procedure governing the use of nuclear weapons. A Japanese magazine said that unlike NATO where some 10 countries must be consulted for the use of nuclear weapons, the use of nuclear weapons in South Korea can be decided simply by the U.S. President's consulting with traitor Chon Tu-hwan. A decision concerning the use of nuclear weapons, therefore, is expected to be very simple -- Japanese magazine SEKAI, November 1983

Unlike Europe, in Asia there is no agreed procedure to govern the use of nuclear weapons and, moreover, the authority for pushing the button of nuclear weapons is being transferred directly to the commanders at all levels of the U.S. Pacific forces -- MAINICHI SHIMBUN, Japan, 6 June 1981

In this way, South Korea has become the most dangerous source of nuclear war and if a war breaks out in Korea it can easily escalate into a global nuclear war. Commenting on this, the U.S. paper THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR said that if a war breaks out again on the Korean peninsula, it will probably turn into a global war in which even nuclear weapons may be mobilized.

TONGIL PYONGNON, a magazine published in Japan, commented that if a nuclear war breaks out in the world, it will primarily be in Korea, and Japan will have no choice but to be embroiled in this war, whether it likes or not.

4. Is it a nuclear war exercise for defensive purposes?

This year, the U.S. imperialists are about to stage the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise in South Korea by mobilizing a great number of troops, numbering some 200,000. Since September 1982, when the U.S. imperialists changed their former strategy of defending the frontline assuming South Korea as its axis into a new offensive strategy based on the nuclear preemptive attack or the preemptive strike and began to pursue its practical perfection, the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise took on the mission of an actual war exercise in order to achieve this end.

The U.S. imperialists' offensive strategy assumes as its base destroying our military facilities and other major facilities by nuclear forces, landing forces, and electronics means the instant they start attacking the northern half of the republic from the Military Demarcation Line and then combining it with airlift and landing operations from the sea into the rear part of the frontline. According to this offensive strategy, the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise has been brought into a new relief in its content as it was changed into an exercise of attack operations carrying out a tactical mission from its former nature, the so-called exercise of defensive operations, carrying out a strategic mission.

On 12 March 1983, traitor Chon Tu-hwan, while inspecting the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise based on the new offensive strategy, said that where the past exercises had been passive ones aimed mainly at defense, the present exercises have become positive and offensive ones assuming attack operations as their base.

While directing the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise on the spot, Sennewald, former commander of U.S. forces occupying South Korea, said that if necessary, an attack could penetrate deeper into North Korea -- HAEWOE HANMINBO, paper published by overseas Korean compatriots, 2 January, 1984; Japanese magazine (KUNJI MINPON), Vol. 33, 1983.

With a view to practically perfecting the offensive strategy, the U.S. imperialists are conducting the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise based mainly on such exercises of attack operations as large-scale landing operations exercises, river-crossing exercises, and exercises of an airborne aircraft attack. In a large-scale landing exercise called "No 24 Ssangyong Operation," a part of the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise, a large-scale landing battle group with the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk as its axis, transportation battle ships, submarines, landing ships, (?rescue ships), some 27,000 U.S. troops, including the third landing forces, the U.S. Marine Corps stationed in Okinawa, 25 U.S. Navy ships, and 200 U.S. Army aircraft were mobilized, along with 25 ships from the puppet army, including a puppet navy destroyer, landing ships, and transportation ships and aircraft, 20,000-strong troops, including a large-scale landing group, and a wide assortment of combat technology and equipment -- REUTER and UPI from Seoul, 20 March 1984; South Korea's Munhwa Broadcasting Company, 20 March 1984

This was the largest landing operation exercise ever conducted in history, which mobilized some 4,000 more troops and some 100 more aircraft than were mobilized in the exercise of landing operations conducted in the previous year of 1983, which was the largest in scale until that time.

In connection with this exercise, it was reported that the enemy conducted a more active and offensive drill by changing the nature of the past defense-oriented exercises, and foreign news agencies added that the exercise was a drill which reinforced the nature of the exercise of the previous year, which was changed from a defense-oriented to an offensive-oriented exercise -- Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation of South Korea, 20 March 1984; HAEWOE HANMINBO, a newspaper of overseas Korean compatriots, 1 February 1984 edition

The "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is a test nuclear war to conduct a nuclear attack on the northern half of the republic.

The May 1984 edition of WOLGAN CHOSON CHARYO, a magazine published in Japan, said that what should be noted first in the "Team Spirit" exercise is the fact that the exercise is a limited test nuclear war with the Korean peninsula as a target. NEW [word indistinct] TIMES, a U.S. magazine, commented on the "Team Spirit" exercise, saying that, in the course of the exercise, the United States perfected capabilities for applying tactical nuclear weapons.

Before this stark reality acknowledged by the world, (Narok), a retired U.S. rear admiral, confessed that the U.S. Strategic Command was participating, for the first time, in the "Team Spirit-83" joint military exercise, in which the Enterprise was taking part and in which a nuclear war was simulated -- CHOSON TONGSIN, Tokyo, 20 March 1983

With the participation of the U.S. Strategic Command whose basic mission is the command of a nuclear war, nuclear aircraft carriers, strategic bombers and fighter-bombers capable of loading nuclear weapons, and nuclear missiles were mobilized on a large scale in the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise. Also, units that can conduct a nuclear war and, in particular, even the Green Berets, a special operational corps carrying nuclear backpacks, were mobilized in the exercise.

In addition, an operation exercise simulating a preemptive nuclear attack on the northern half of the republic was waged in a full-fledged manner.

As noted by foreign news agencies, the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is an overall preliminary war and test nuclear war to invade the northern half of the republic without distinguishing the front from the rear by mobilizing nuclear and conventional armed forces and by using electronic means.

5. Who is the victim of nuclear war?

Many types of nuclear weapons, which the U.S. imperialists have introduced into South Korea, are not the means to protect South Korea, but are factors in bringing calamities to South Korea. If a war breaks out at a place where nuclear weapons, aimed at massacre, are deployed, it inevitably is accompanied by a nuclear confrontation. It is obvious that, if the U.S. imperialists provoke in South Korea a nuclear war, South Korea, which has been reduced to their nuclear strategic base, will become the first object of attack. This is a serious problem which the world publicly recognizes at present and the South Korean people themselves actually feel.

(Ono Akira), chairman of the JSP Councilors Committee, said: Today, the question of peace or war is a vital issue connected with the existence or ruin of mankind. Furthermore, the fact that U.S. troops are stationed and a large number of nuclear weapons are deployed in the South of the Korean peninsula, a neighbor of Japan, cannot be overlooked. The aggravation of tensions on the Korean peninsula and the outbreak of the second Korean war will bring about irrevocable consequences for the Asian peoples, including the Japanese people, and the world's people.

Saying that a politically sensitive question regarding nuclear weapons possessed by the U.S. troops in South Korea is being brought into discussion in South Korea at present, the 26 December 1985 edition of FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, a magazine published in Hong Kong, cited part of the following article by a South Korean democratic figure: "Nuclear weapons are not weapons to protect us. If a world war breaks out, the first attack will be imposed on us."

The nuclear weapons and nuclear war means deployed in South Korea serve the implementation of the U.S. imperialists' world strategy. Proceeding from this, South Korea is becoming a victim for the United States. A magazine published in Japan said that it has been disclosed in a report on antisatellite weapons of the Scientific and Technological Assessment Bureau of the U.S. Congress, which opened to the public on 25 September last year, that air surveillance facilities installed in Taegu are part of the SDI plan of the U.S. imperialists.

It has been known in South Korea that there is a huge air surveillance station in a U.S. military unit stationed in Taegu. However, the officially announced report this time that this air surveillance station is not only closely linked with the SDI of the United States, but is also part of its space nuclear strategy has aroused a great shock to South Korea today. This is because of the fact that if a war breaks out, the air surveillance station in Taegu will be the first target of the attack by the enemy of the United States and that consequently South Korea will be inevitably entangled in a nuclear war.

At any rate, South Korea has been already entangled in the U.S. imperialists' plan for a nuclear war, regardless of whether it wants this or not, because it has allowed the deployment of nuclear weapons and means of nuclear war of the U.S. imperialists.

To this, a South Korean paper said: We have been already entangled in the space war plan of a superpower regardless of whether we want this or not. What is hardly understandable is that the U.S. air surveillance station in Taegu has nothing to do with the security of South Korea -- the South Korean KYONGHYANG SINMUN 27 September 1985. Thus, South Korea has come to face the durable danger of receiving nuclear disaster at any moment.

The fact that the South Korean puppets are trying to drive even the people of the northern half of the republic into a nuclear holocaust by staging nuclear war provocation rackets in collusion with the U.S. imperialists is indeed an intolerable act. This is a national tragedy that even the South Korean people deplore.

Last year, a paper published by Korean residents overseas, quoting the remarks of a democratic personage in South Korea, reported that if the same nation regards each other with hostility, if such hostile relations are further deepened, and then a nuclear holocaust is imposed on our nation by the force of a big power, this will be the greatest tragedy for our nation. Stressing that the only way for rescuing our nation from nuclear holocaust is to reunify the country peacefully, the South Korean people today urgently desire national reunification without the intervention of foreign forces and the sacrifice of our compatriots.

On the Korean peninsula and in the area around it, there are terrible nuclear weapons that can kill the nation of 60 million in the North and South. We are not satisfied with the alleviation of tension only but need measures to also avoid the obliteration of the nation. Such measures can be achieved only through the reunification of the country. The reunification of the country is for the interests of the nation. Therefore, we do not need any form of reunification that brings about national sacrifice -- CHOKUK TONGIL SINBO 15 November 1985.

If the land of our country becomes the site of a nuclear war and our fellow countrymen become victims of a nuclear war because of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, for whom will the devastated land of the country be useful? And for whom will the reunification of the country without our nation be? Our brethren in the North, South, and overseas should answer this question of history first than anyone else in the world.

This year is the Year of International Peace. To guarantee solid peace in the world, the danger of a nuclear war should be eliminated from earth.

The place where the greatest danger of a nuclear war prevails on earth today is the Korean peninsula. If a war breaks out in Korea by the U.S. imperialists, this will soon expanded into a global war, a thermonuclear war.

The sacred land of our country should not be turned into the site of a nuclear war. Our brethren should not become the victims of a nuclear war. In particular, the United States is scheming to take advantage of the Korean peninsula in its confrontation policy. We will never allow the brethren in the North and the South to become the victims of the U.S. policy of confrontation, nor will we allow our land to be utilized as the site of a war for the interests of the United States.

Blocking and frustrating the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers to provoke a new war in Korea is a matter of survival related to the destiny of the Korean people and an urgent demand of the times aspiring for peace. The "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise in South Korea must be cancelled immediately. The U.S. forces and nuclear weapons must be withdrawn. U.S. interference into Korea must be stopped. The Korean peninsula must be turned into a nuclear-free peace zone.

We express our firm belief that the governments, political parties, personages of all strata, and people of all countries of the world will more vigorously stage a joint struggle to stop the nuclear war exercise of the United States in South Korea and to withdraw U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and extend firm solidarity to our people's just cause. [Dated] -- 6 February 1986, Pyongyang

DRRF CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS 8 FEBRUARY

SK090250 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] An extraordinary enlarged meeting of the DRRF Central Committee was held at the People's Palace of Culture on 8 February. Respectfully placed on the wall of the meeting hall was a portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our people.

Participating in the meeting were Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice president; Chong Sin-hyok; chairman of the Central Committee of the DRRF and chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party; Yom Tae-chun and Chong Tu-hwan, chairmen of the Central Committee of the DRRF; Kim Yong-chun, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party; members of the Presidium and Central Committee of the DRRF; and functionaries from the sectors concerned.

The meeting was presided over by Chairman Chong Sin-hyok. The meeting discussed the grave situation developed in our country because of the provocative and large-scale joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-86" which the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique plan to stage.

Chairman Yom Tae-chun made a report at the meeting. The reporter said that today the Korean peninsula is at the grave crossroads of war and peace because of the reckless war exercise rackets kicked up by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique. He said that by trying to stage the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-86" despite the unanimous opposition of public opinion at home and abroad, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique have suspended the North-South dialogue, which was held after a long interval, and have caused the dark clouds of a nuclear war to gather over the fatherland.

He said that the extraordinary enlarged meeting of the DRRF Central Committee, which was held amidst the grave situation in which the danger of a nuclear war was added to the sufferings of division, would discuss measures for deterring and thwarting, through the united efforts of all the people, the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique to provoke a new war; for removing obstacles on the future path of dialogue; and for promoting the cause of peace and the peaceful reunification of the country. He then continued: As is well known, proceeding from a single desire to provide a prerequisite for peace and the peaceful reunification of the country, we have long exerted every possible effort to successfully lead dialogue and negotiations between the North and South.

In his new year's message, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught: In order to make the North-South dialogue progress successfully, we should alleviate tension between the North and South, and, to achieve this end, we should, above all, stop military exercises against the opposite side to dialogue.

This principled stand shown by the great leader clearly indicates a way to make dialogue progress smoothly and directly reflects all the fellow countrymen's desire for success in dialogue. Because of this, as an important step for alleviating tension on the Korean peninsula and for providing a favorable condition for the North-South dialogue, the government of the republic, through a statement of its Foreign Ministry dated 11 January, declared at home and abroad that it will stop, beginning from 1 February, large-scale military exercises in the entire area of the northern half of the republic, and will suspend all military exercises during the period when the North-South dialogue is being held. It then urged the U.S. Government and the South Korean authorities to positively respond to this new peaceful proposal.

This peaceful proposal has won unanimous support and sympathy from public opinion at home and abroad because it reflects the Korean people's unanimous desire for peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula. Despite our repeated peaceful proposals and patient efforts, the United States and the South Korean authorities have, after all, answered this proposal with the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-86."

He went on to say: We bitterly condemn and denounce, with surging national indignation, the outrageous and adventurous joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-86" which the United States and the South Korean authorities plan to stage as a brazen act of aggression and as an intolerable challenge to our republic.

As is shown by historic experience, a large-scale military exercise in which tens of thousands of troops will be deployed is necessary not for peace but for a war and not for defense but for a preemptive strike. If a nuclear war is touched off on the Korean peninsula as a result of the development of the "Team Spirit-86" war exercise, whose basic equipment consists of nuclear offensive means, into a real war at a stroke, those who will sustain damages are none other than our fellow countrymen, and the land that will be devastated will be our sacred fatherland. Our people should never be sacrificed by a nuclear war forced upon us by foreign forces, and the Korean peninsula should never become the U.S. imperialists' nuclear war battleground.

Despite such a vital demand of the people, the South Korean puppet clique is trying to stage a military exercise against us with the United States after discarding dialogue it held with its fellow countrymen, by following the U.S. imperialists' policy for confrontation. This clearly shows that it is a group of traitors who lack national dignity and ignore peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

The reporter said that the current situation in our country urgently calls for resolutely checking and thwarting the war maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and for taking effective measures to achieve peace and the peaceful reunification of the country.

He then continued: If we fail to promptly take a nation-saving step under the present circumstances in which the U.S. imperialists are indiscreetly running amok to light the flames of a war against the northern half of the republic by staging the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-86," our people will suffer another war disaster by the U.S. imperialist aggressors, and a much graver obstacle will be laid on the future path of the country's peaceful reunification.

We believe that now is the time when, keenly feeling the danger that the people are facing and upholding an antiwar and antinuclear banner of peace, all the Korean people who love the country and the people should rise on the single anti-U.S. road of saving the country.

In order to prevent the danger of war in the country and to promote the cause of achieving peace and peaceful reunification, we should provide a favorable atmosphere for the resumption of the suspended dialogue. To achieve this end, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique should openly apologize to our people and the people of the world for committing the crime of suspending the North-South dialogue and should withdraw the criminal plan for the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-86."

Just as peace and war are incompatible with each other, dialogue and military exercises are not at all compatible with each other. It is customary that when both sides engaged in hostilities conduct negotiations, they stop firing at each other. It is crystal-clear that dialogue cannot progress in the powder-reeking atmosphere of war and that success will not be gained even if dialogue is held.

The reporter said that in order to alleviate tension in Korea and to preserve durable peace, we should force the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces, basic obstacles to alleviating tension, to withdraw from South Korea. He said that it is illegal that half of our country, in which the people should lead a peaceful life, has been occupied by the U.S. forces for more than 40 years and that the deployment of U.S. forces in South Korea directly threatens us. He then said that without removing the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces from South Korea, we cannot prevent the danger of war in the country, nor can we peacefully resolve the question of the fatherland's reunification.

The reporter said that no matter whether they are in the North or the South and no matter whether they are communists or nationalists, all the Korean people who are concerned over the life or death of the people and over their future destiny should unite with one accord under an anti-U.S. banner of saving the country regardless of difference in ideologies, systems, and affiliation and should resolutely rise in a pan-national antiwar and peace movement to force the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces and nuclear weapons to withdraw from South Korea and to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free and peace zone.

He described the military Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique as a group of toadyist traitors who value the interest and security of the United States, which is situated across the ocean, much more dearly than the interest of the people and the peace of the country, and as a group of war maniacs and splittists who have faithfully executed the U.S. imperialists' policy of war. He then continued: Ignoring the people's dignity and destiny and flattering and subserviently following foreign aggressors, this clique has sold out the people's vital interest, has stepped up the suppression of the South Korean people who desire independence and peaceful reunification, and has much more zealously engaged in anticommunist confrontation against us and in the policy of war.

Having issued a joint statement, traitor Chon Tu-hwan is trying to justify his war exercise rackets, boisterously describing the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-86" as a defensive-type one and as one designed to preserve peace. This is nothing but a piratical reversal of logic. Instead of leading the country and the people to the verge of war by following the U.S. imperialists' strategy for a nuclear war, the South Korean authorities should traverse the road of alleviating tension and of achieving the unity of the people and should stop assuming the role of war executor for the U.S. imperialists.

Those who truly love the country and who are concerned over the future destiny of the people should show love for the people and should rise as one in the sacred antiwar and antinuclear struggle not for war but for peace and not for division but for reunification -- to save the country and to achieve peace -- transcending the fence of ideologies, systems, and assertions and upholding the banner of grand national unity.

In conclusion, the reporter called for adopting letters of appeal to political parties, social organizations, and figures from all walks of life in South Korea and to the American people to vigorously call on these parties, social organizations, and figures to the anti-U.S. nation-saving struggle to prevent the danger of war, to achieve peace and the peaceful reunification of the country, and to obtain positive support for our just cause of turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free and peace zone from the people of the world, including the American people. Discussions followed. The letters of appeal to political parties, social organizations, and figures from all walks of life in South Korea and to the American people were unanimously approved and adopted at the meeting.

Appeal to American People

SK081035 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang February 8 (KCNA) -- An appeal to the American people was adopted at an extraordinary enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland held here today.

Follows the full text of the appeal:

Today an acute tension has been created on the Korean peninsula contrary to the world trend toward peace. This arouses deep apprehensions among the entire Korean people and the peaceloving people of the world, including the American people.

In connection with this grave situation prevailing in Korea, the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, a political federation of all the political parties and social organizations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, has held an extraordinary enlarged meeting and is sending this appeal to you the American people.

The North-South dialogue has been suspended and tension is heightening on the Korean peninsula because the U.S. Government, together with the South Korean authorities, schemes to hold the provocative joint military exercises "Team Spirit 86" directed against the northern half of Korea.

No one can vouch that these military exercises involving huge Armed Forces and nuclear weapons and other latest type means of war enough to wage a full-scale war would not go over to a real war against the northern half of Korea. You must know full well that the "Team Spirit 86" is too vast in its scope and too offensive in its nature to be described as a "defensive rehearsal for maintaining peace".

What is the need for United States to stage the maneuvers even wrecking North-South dialogue for peace and peaceful reunification, by bringing huge armed forces and military equipment to no other place than the southern half of the Korean peninsula tens of thousands of miles away from its mainland?

The Korean people have never invaded the U.S. territory nor infringed upon its interests. More than once have we declared that we would be on good terms with the United States, if it stopped interfering in the internal affairs of our country and took hands off Korea.

This year alone, we repeatedly urged the U.S. side to refrain from military exercises obstructive to dialogue, to broaden the multi-channelled dialogues arranged between the North and the South of Korea.

And we proclaimed that we will stop large-scale military manoeuvres throughout the northern half of the republic from February 1 and suspend all the military exercises while dialogue is on and urged the U.S. side to respond to this new peace initiative. The United States, however, answered our proposal with the joint military exercises "Team Spirit 86", far from acceding to it.

This proves that the U.S. authorities do not want North-South dialogue or the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula.

If the tensions were not eased on the Korean peninsula and another war broke out, not only the Korean nation but also your children and husbands in South Korea would suffer from it and the United States itself would not be tranquil. If a war broke out in Korea, it would undoubtedly be a nuclear war, and its flame would sweep not only the Korean peninsula but also the whole world.

There is not assurances that when hundreds of millions of people fall victims to a nuclear holocaust, the Americans will get off scot-free. The U.S. authorities, too, declared that a thermonuclear war cannot be won. The days are gone when a big power benefitted by a war and the "strong" a massed fortunes.

If you Americans truly love justice and peace, you should never allow such an adventurous nuclear war game as the "Team Spirit" staged on the directives of the U.S. authorities.

If you do not want your sons and daughters to shed blood in Korea, you should strongly demand that all the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons be pulled out of South Korea. It is not you but the U.S. authorities and the death merchants who want a war.

We hope to solve the Korean question in a peaceful way through dialogue and negotiations, not by means of war. We have consistently proposed to the U.S. Government to hold three-way talks involving us, the United States and South Korea in order to eradicate the source of war and consolidate peace on the Korean peninsula. The U.S. authorities however, still turn a deaf ear to this peace initiative of ours.

We consider that the American people should lift up louder voices demanding the government authorities to respond to our proposal for tripartite talks as a first step toward the fulfilment of their "peace commitments" to you.

We hope that the American people will wage a more daring anti-war, anti-nuclear movement and actively join in the struggle for establishing nuclear-free, peace zones on the Korean peninsula, Asia and all other parts of the world, to save mankind from the danger of nuclear war persistently forced upon it. A war is by no means inevitable.

We express the belief that the American people will pay due attention to the strained situation on the Korean peninsula and extend full support and firm solidarity to the Korean people's struggle for peace in the country and its peaceful reunification.

KCNA CITES XINHUA COMMENTARY ON 'TEAM SPIRIT'

SK090945 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0915 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Beijing February 7 (KCNA) -- XINHUA February 7 published a commentary denouncing the scheduled "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique. It says: The United States and the South Korean side some time ago declared that the aim of the military rehearsal is to strengthen the "combat posture" and "joint operation capability" and the imaginary enemy is the DPRK.

Their talk about "convention" means escalating the demonstration of armed forces, persistently resorting to it and their talk about "self-defence" is aimed at threat by force of arms, telling a cheap lie. It stresses that it would be a wise act following the trend of history for the United States and the South Korean authorities to respond to the DPRK's call by immediately cancelling the pending joint exercises to create necessary preconditions and favourable environments for tripartite talks and a summit meeting between the North and South of Korea.

KCNA Cites TASS

SK090951 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0918 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA) -- TASS February 8 made a public statement lashing at the "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique. Pointing out that the military rehearsal of the United States and South Korea is a direct threat to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the statement says:

The Soviet Union vehemently denounces the provocative war rehearsal of the U.S. troops and the South Korean puppet army in the south of the Korean peninsula, regarding it as one wrecking the foundation of security in the Asian-Pacific region and threatening the DPRK and other peace-loving countries and peace as a whole. Noteworthy is it that this military action aimed at a show of strength will be held very close to the far eastern borderline of the Soviet Union and be contradictory to the interests of her security. The Soviet Union hopes that the United States and its allies will practically realize that the war frenzy whipped up in the South of the Korean peninsula may produce grave consequences, lend an ear to the voice of the peace forces and stop trying to threaten someone with a show of military forces.

Public opinion of mankind is now being inclined more and more to the realisation of detente and disarmament and the complete abolition of nuclear and chemical weapons within the present century. If all the nuclear weapons are withdrawn from South Korea and the Korean peninsula is turned into a peace, nuclear-free zone, as proposed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, it will be a big step forward on the road to this noble aim.

NODONG SINMUN ON REAGAN STATE OF UNION ADDRESS

SK080549 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2151 GMT 7 Feb 86

[NODONG SINMUN 8 February commentary: "On the Messages of the Persons in Authority in the United States"]

[Text] Recently, the U.S. Congress received a State of the Union message and a budget message for fiscal 1987 submitted by the U.S. President. In the meantime, the U.S. secretary of defense also submitted a defense report to the Congress. In the messages, the administration praised itself for what it has accomplished and tried to embellish and justify its reactionary domestic and foreign policies. Whatever tricks the authors of the messages may have employed, the messages, containing nothing new in comparison with ones submitted in the past, were fraught with designs for the U.S. policy of strength as well as with ambitions to strengthen the expansion of arms and war preparations.

In his State of the Union message and budget message, Reagan said that the government will observe its defense commitment and then asked the Congress not to cut back on the budget of military expenditure, which has been drastically increased as compared with that of the current fiscal year. Saying also that he will positively press on with the SDI, he said that the portion of the budget to be set aside for this purpose will drastically increase.

Reagan babbled that turning the United States into a strong power is indispensable for U.S. national security.

The defense report also stated that pushing ahead with the SDI is the priority task. All this shows that the U.S. ruling class is pursuing only aggression, interference, and war, exactly the opposite of the aspirations of the American people for peace.

The U.S. imperialists, who are bogged down in serious political and economic crises and who are on a downward path, are exacerbating tension by becoming enthusiastic about expanding nuclear arms and by devoting itself to the unscrupulous use of force and to interfering maneuvers in every corner of the world. It is because of the U.S. imperialists' aggression and interfering maneuvers that the situation in Northeast Asia, including the Korean peninsula, Central America, southern Africa, the Middle East, and Europe is getting worse with each passing day.

The messages clearly demonstrate that the Reagan administration is about to strengthen such a policy in the future. In addition, the fact that the high-ranking persons in authority in the United States said that pushing forward with SDI as the priority task lays bare the U.S. imperialists' dark intentions to turn space into a site of nuclear attack, in violation of an international agreement, and their boundless ambitions to achieve supremacy of power over the world's progressive forces, to dominate the world, and to have the whole world to themselves.

Paying a great deal of attention to the situation in East Asia, the defense report said that the U.S.-Japan Mutual Security Treaty is the core of U.S. Asia policy and urged Japan to drastically increase military spending and to further enhance the capabilities to continue war. This clearly shows the content of the U.S. imperialists' war plan to exacerbate the situation on the Korean peninsula and ignite the flames of a new war, a nuclear war there, to use Japan as the general base for a new war of invading Korea, and to have the revived and rearmed Japanese militarist aggression force attack our republic by sending the whole lump of the Japanese forces to the frontline in Korea.

It is by no means accidental that maneuvers to finally perfect the fabrication of the triangular military alliance among the United States, Japan, and South Korea is earnestly being pushed ahead and that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, a preliminary war and a nuclear test war against our republic, is about to be launched.

Because of such a military act by the U.S. imperialists, a dangerous situation verging on war is being created on the Korean peninsula. Judging by all developments in the situation, it becomes clear that the United States is about to accelerate its maneuvers to prepare for war against the Korean people in the new fiscal year.

The United States is squandering a stupendous amount of money for the expansion of arms on a vast scale and for war preparations. As a result of the systematic increase in military spending since the emergence of the Reagan administration in particular, the amount of military spending has reached about \$300 billion in fiscal year 1986 and is expected to surpass it far more in the 1987 fiscal year. Mainly because of such a stupendous amount of military spending and preparations for a new war, the United States is expected to run into a trade deficit of \$150 billion this year as well as a budget deficit of \$208 billion. Therefore, it will be further reduced to a debtor nation.

Because of SDI, the so-called "star wars," the financial and trade relations of the United States will continue to deteriorate further. In other words, the U.S. policy of expanding arms and of preparing for a thermonuclear war is now resulting in chipping away at its own backbone.

The State of the Union message indicated that the United States will strengthen its trade offensive against the other countries in the new fiscal year and will enforce a policy of forcing U.S. goods on them, and then spelled out cajoling and sweet words couched in tax reductions in order to pry more taxes from the people. This lays bare the intentions of the U.S. ruling class, which finds itself in a heap of debts, and, therefore, has no choice but to forcibly plunder people at home and abroad. None of the Western countries, however, is tolerant enough to let the United States meet its demands at the risk of their own interests, and the contradictions and frictions between these countries and the United States over trade are only growing more. Also, the U.S. domestic discontent about the government's antipopular policy of plundering grows.

Claiming that he is supporting the so-called freedom fighters, the person in authority in the United States unscrupulously babbled about thrusting weapons into the hands of those who betrayed their own fatherland and people, counterrevolutionary rescals, puppets, and stooges and then instigating them to military acts and subversive maneuvers against the lawful governments of the sovereign states struggling for the consolidation of their independence and progress. This is indeed a brazen-faced act exposing the true color of U.S. imperialism as the aggressor, interferer, and the boss of the world's reactionaries.

Indeed, the policy of the Reagan administration's policy of supporting the Somoza remnants who are devoted to all sorts of shameless acts against the lawful government of the independent and patriotic Nicaragua as well as murder, destruction, and arson; the military hooligans attacking the progressive regime of Angola; the Botha clique which, while clinging to the most brutal racist policy, is devoted to brutally massacring the Africans in the country and to using military force against neighboring countries; the Zionists strangling the Arab people; and the puppet South Korean clique which betrays the people, is a challenge to justice, progress, and peace.

The messages of the persons in authority in the United States for the new fiscal year make it possible to foresee that peace will be threatened in various places due to the U.S. imperialists' lines of aggression, plunderings, and war this year again, that the people's just cause will be attacked, and their national independence and sovereignty will be infringed upon, and that disputes and unrests can be fomented. The world's people are raising their vigilance against this.

NODONG SINMUN ON WEINBERGER'S DEFENSE REPORT

SK110333 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2154 GMT 8 Feb 86

[NODONG SINMUN 9 February commentary: "An Excuse To Continue Occupation"]

[Text] In an annual defense budget report for fiscal 1987 submitted recently to the U.S. Congress, U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger laid bare an ambition to keep indefinitely South Korea under U.S. grip and once again mounted a false propaganda about the so-called threat of southward invasion from the North.

Weinberger's report shows the U.S. is attempting to strengthen preparations for provoking another Korean war. In his report, the U.S. secretary of defense babbled about the danger of our surprise attack. This is a complete fabrication and falsification. Arguing to make us appear as if we are about to launch a surprise attack against the South is an act of completely distorting our peace-loving stand of having conducted various forms of dialogue with the South and of having called for the discussion of the issue of adopting a declaration of nonaggression at the parliamentary talks.

The fact that Weinberger uttered such nonsense is nothing but a ploy to justify the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise being conducted [as heard] in South Korea with the mobilization of some 200,000 troops, and a great number of various modern weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons and the maneuvers to prepare for a new war.

Also in the report on military strategy, Weinberger spread a groundless rumor about somebody's preparations for reunification through the use of military forces, babbling as if to say that the "Team Spirit" war exercises are necessary to cope with it. This alone, however, can never camouflage the aggressive and criminal nature of the "Team Spirit" exercise. It is well known that this war exercise is a preliminary war for waging a war of aggression against our republic and that nobody can tell when the exercise itself will be turned into a real war. It is an impudent act like a thief turning on the master with a club to babble about the danger of somebody's surprise attack or about preparations for reunification through the use of military forces, while launching a dangerous and provocative war exercise which is militarily adventurous.

By spreading the theory on the threat of southward invasion Weinberger is attempting to justify the occupation of South Korea by U.S. troops. This is evidenced by Weinberger's words in his report that South Korea is an important area of vital interest to the United States and that the United States will keep U.S. troops stationed in South Korea. In other words, in order to find an excuse to continue the occupation of South Korea by U.S. troops the United States is mounting a slanderous propaganda on the nonexistent threat of southward invasion. By continuing the occupation of South Korea and by keeping it as a colony and military base, the United States is chasing a chimera of accelerating the war preparations there and of attacking our republic and other socialist countries with military forces. This is what the U.S. strategy toward Korea seeks.

The occupation of South Korea by U.S. troops not only threatens peace on the Korean peninsula and increases the danger of war there, but, in itself is a source of laying obstacles to the peaceful reunification of our fatherland. The United States should withdraw its troops of aggression along with the nuclear weapons from South Korea without delay. And the Korean peninsula should be made a nuclear-free peace zone.

NODONG SINMUN ON STUDENT SUPPRESSION IN SOUTH

SK070950 Pyong Domestic Service in Korean 2154 GMT 6 Feb 86

[NODONG SINMUN 7 February commentary: "The Beasts Have Exposed Their Fangs"]

[Text] As has been made public, some 1,000 students from 14 universities in Seoul staged a joint antigovernment rally and demonstration at Seoul National University on 4 February. This struggle was an eruption of the strong aspiration and the sense of justice to recover, at any cost, the independence, democracy, and right to exist of which they have been deprived.

Nevertheless, the Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique hurled some 3,000 riot police troops into the site of this sacred struggle and inflicted outrageous violence on the students. It is now attempting to relentlessly punish some 250 students forcibly taken to police stations.

According to a report, the Seoul District Prosecution Office said on 5 February that the students' rally and demonstration were an illegal political assembly and a demonstration of violence in which wooden clubs and Molotov cocktails were used, and that those radical students who played a leading role in the rally, those who have been booked, and those who took the lead in planning the rally will all be arrested pending the results of the police investigation.

Meanwhile, the puppet police are now running amok in attempting to ferret out, by intensifying the investigation of the arrested students, those who masterminded the rally and, thus, to arrest and punish more students.

Earlier, the chief of the puppet police headquarters and the chief of the Seoul City police, recklessly insulting the student struggle, raved that police troops will be sent onto campuses even without the request of the campus authorities in order to eradicate the student struggle at its initial stage.

The Chon u-hwan ring's bestial suppression of the students' peaceful rallies and demonstrations is an outrageous violence aimed at strangling justice and democracy in South Korea and obliterating the student movement. The wolves of South Korea have exposed their sharp bestial fangs against the youths and students.

Today, in South Korea, only fascist guns and bayonets are rampant. Political remarks are banned and the movement against the U.S. and the present system is regarded as procommunist and is relentlessly suppressed. The campuses are frequently attacked and innocent people are sent to prison by the puppet police, who have been put on emergency duty. The arrest of off-stage dissident figures and the act of putting them under house arrest are also continued more atrociously. This shows that the Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique is persisting in wielding guns and bayonets in seeking the so-called social stability for its long-term office.

The puppets' gibberish about illegality and violence is a counterpropaganda designed to justify their suppression with guns and bayonets. Assembly and demonstration are basic democratic rights. At the rally, the students called for the liquidation of the fascist Constitution in order to achieve the democratization of South Korean society, and said that they would participate in the struggle for the revision of the Constitution, along with the personages of various strata. Why is this illegal? The puppets are trying to maintain the fascist Constitution in defiance of the people's sentiment. Isn't this an illegal act which must be made an issue?

It is not students but the fascist hangmen who wield violence. Last year, when the puppet police requested students not to throw stones, the students answered that they would refrain from stone-throwing if tear gas bombs were not used. If the puppets do not suppress peaceful rallies and demonstrations with violence, students will not throw stones or wield wooden clubs.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring's unprecedented rampage in suppressing students is a last-ditch effort to maintain its power. In seeking to realize the ambition for long-term office, they regard this year as a most dangerous period and, thus, are attempting to obliterate the advance of the students by violently wielding guns and bayonets in the early part of the year.

However, no dictatorial power can block the spirit of the spring struggle rising from beneath the iceberg of fascism. Youths and students will never surrender to the puppets' wielding of guns and bayonets, but will drag the puppet clique to the courtroom of historical judgment through their more unyielding struggle.

PAK SONG-CHOL MEETS NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA IN CUBA

SK101247 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1055 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Havana February 8 (KCNA) -- Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the DPRK, who is heading the WPK delegation to the Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba paid a courtesy call on Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of Nicaragua, in Havana on February 7.

The head of the delegation conveyed cordial regards of President Kim Il-song to President Daniel Ortega Saavedra. The Nicaraguan president expressed deep thanks for this and asked him to transmit his sincere and warm greetings to President Kim Il-song. Expressing full support to the Korean people's cause of national reunification, President Daniel Ortega Saavedra said that Nicaragua would not participate in the 24th Olympiad, if the DPRK proposal for its cosponsorship by the North and the South of Korea was not realised.

Meets Argentine CP Leader

SK101232 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Havana February 8 (KCNA) -- Pak Song-Chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the DPRK, who is heading the WPK delegation to the Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba on February 7 met Athos Fava, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Argentina in Havana. A conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

CUBAN CONGRESS SUPPORTS STAND ON OLYMPICS

SK101252 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1057 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang February 10 (KCNA) -- The Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba which closed in Havana on February 7 expressed firm support to the Korean people's cause of national reunification in a resolution on foreign policy adopted at the congress, according to a report. The resolution says that the third congress of the party confirms the support for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in its noble goal to attain the peaceful reunification of the country and backs the statements contained in the report regarding the situation created following the designation of Seoul as the venue of the 1988 Olympiad. It stresses the need for an honorable solution through peaceful negotiations between the North and the South to existing crisis without which Cuba's attendance to the Olympiad is not conceived.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR INTERVIEWED ON PEACE PROPOSAL

SK110505 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA) -- Nikolay Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea, was interviewed by home and foreign reporters at his embassy on February 10 in connection with a new peace proposal of the Soviet Union.

The ambassador pointed out that the Soviet Union recently advanced new initiatives for completely abolishing nuclear weapons and other mass destruction weapons throughout the world and discontinuing nuclear tests and is now exerting all efforts for their materialization.

Recalling that Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, in his January 15 statement made public a comprehensive program to extend the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions for three months, and abolish nuclear weapons throughout the world in 15 years to come, the ambassador underlined the justness and significance of this new peace proposal. Contrary to the new peace proposal of the Soviet Union, he noted, the United States refuses to take practical steps for reduction of nuclear weapons and armaments, bringing forward general problems without any concrete content or plan.

Expressing full support to the DPRK Government's decision to stop military exercises from February 1, 1986, as an important step to ease the tension on the Korean peninsula and create favourable environments for the North-South dialogues, he stressed that the United States' start of the large-scale "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises on February 10 was an open challenge to the Korean people and all the peaceloving people of the world. The ambassador gave answers to questions raised by reporters.

KIM IL-SONG SENDS GREETINGS TO IRANIAN PRESIDENT

SK101307 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1120 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang February 10 (KCNA) -- President Kim Il-song on February 8 extended warm congratulations to President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i and the Iranian people on the 7th anniversary of the victorious Islamic revolution in Iran. In his message of greetings he said that over the last 7 years the Iranian people under the leadership of their esteemed leader Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni have made a great progress in the struggle for defending the gains of the Islamic revolution and building an independent and prosperous new Iran. He expressed his belief that the friendly and cooperative relations forged between the two peoples on one road of independence against imperialism will grow stronger and develop.

YI CHONG-OK ATTENDS IRANIAN ENVOY'S RECEPTION

SK110513 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0502 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA) -- A. Nahavandian, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Korea, gave a reception at the People's Palace of Culture on the evening of February 10 on the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the victorious Islamic revolution in Iran. Invited to the reception were Vice-President Yi Chong-ok and personages concerned.

In his speech Ambassador A. Nahavandian referred to the successes gained by the Iranian people in their struggle for safeguarding their independence and national sovereignty over the past 7 years since the victorious Islamic revolution. The Islamic nation of Iran, he said, highly estimates the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song which has led the Korean people to a brilliant victory as we see it today.

Expressing the belief that the Korean people would achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country at an early date, he stated: The Islamic nation of Iran denounces any outside interference creating an obstacle to the reunification of Korea. The Islamic Republic of Iran opposes the U.S. aggression forces' occupation of South Korea and strongly denounces such U.S. military exercises as the "Team Spirit 86".

The ambassador wished the Korean people a big stride forward in the struggle to achieve the prosperity of the country and promote its reunification under the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader His Excellency Kim Chong-il.

Chov Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs, spoke next. He pointed out that since the victory of the Islamic revolution the Iranian people under the leadership of respected his excellency Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni have achieved many successes in the struggle for smashing the aggressive and interventionist manoeuvres of the U.S.-led imperialists, defending the gains of the revolution and building a new society, independent and prosperous.

The Korean people are rejoiced over the success of the Iranian people in various fields since the victory of the Islamic revolution and wish them greater successes in their future struggle, he noted.

Pointing to the friendly relations between Korea and Iran, he expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples would grow in strength and develop in various fields in the future in the ideas of independence, friendship and peace.

KIM IL-SONG, KIM CHONG-IL POSE FOR WORKERS PHOTO

SK110040 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, with the guiding cadres of the party and state, met with unheralded workers who are effecting labor exploits in each sector of the national economy and posed with them for a photograph.

The great leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Il-song, with the guiding cadres of the party and state, met with the unheralded workers who are effecting labor exploits in each sector of the national economy during the 11th Plenary Session of the 6th WPK Central Committee and posed for a photograph with them.

As the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song arrived in the meeting site, the participants gave him hearty cheers, shouting "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" A bouquet containing boundless respect and admiration was presented to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Political Bureau Presidium of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces; and Comrades Kang Song-san, Yi Chong-ok, So Chol, Yon Hyong-muk, Kim Yong-nam, Kim Hwan, O Kuk-yol, and So Yun-sok, members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, were present.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, with members of the Political Bureau Presidium of the WPK Central Committee, congratulated the unheralded workers, who have made great contributions to the prosperity and development of the fatherland by effecting heroic exploits in all domains of socialist construction and by devotedly struggling in the past with lofty loyalty to the party and the leader, and posed with them before the camera.

All participants overflowed with boundless admiration and a sense of thanks toward the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the party for designating them as unheralded workers and extending them boundless honor and happiness. They were filled with the firm resolution to actively dedicate themselves to carrying out the cause of the chuche orientation of the entire society by more vigorously waging the three revolutions -- ideological, technological and cultural -- and loyally upholding the party's leadership.

AFP: AUTHORITIES DENY LE DUAN DEATH RUMORS

HK111150 Hong Kong AFP in English 1130 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi, Feb 11 (AFP) -- Vietnamese authorities today denied persistent rumours here that the country's aging leader Le Duan had died in Moscow. "It is all pure fabrication -- Comrade Le Duan is still in good health," an official source here told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. Western diplomats here met with the same response, diplomats said.

The denial followed the unprecedented absence of 77-year-old Mr. Le Duan during last weekend's Tet lunar new year celebrations, an absence which gave rise to rumours -- given substance by some Eastern European diplomats here -- that Mr. Le Duan had died, either on Saturday or Monday. Mr. Le Duan, secretary-general of the Vietnamese Communist Party, went to Moscow for medical treatment in mid-January, diplomats said. The Vietnamese leader, who is believed to be suffering from serious kidney problems, usually goes once or twice annually to the Soviet Union for treatment.

An earlier prolonged absence from public view in 1982 had provoked similar rumours of his death. However, this is the first time that the absence of such a high-ranking Vietnamese leader from the Tet celebrations has gone unexplained, observers and diplomats said here. The week before Tet is traditionally a time for party and government leaders to criss-cross the country for a series of meetings and visits. Even Premier Pham Van Dong, 79 years old and ailing, made the obligatory pilgrimage to the provinces for Tet.

Western observers and diplomats said today that Mr. Le Duan's current absence indicated at least that his condition was such that he had been forced to stay on in Moscow.

Mr. Le Duan last appeared in public on January 11, a few days before his departure for Moscow, at a reception for deputy prime ministers attending meetings here and in Ho Chi Minh City of the Eastern Bloc trade group, Comecon. The press here reported that on Saturday Mr. Le Duan sent a brief message of congratulations to Fidel Castro on his re-election as Cuban Communist Party chief.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS TOUR, DEPARTS

OW071601 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 7 -- Austrian Foreign Minister Leopold Gratz, left here today, concluding his official visit to Vietnam from Feb. 5-7, at the invitation of Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach. While here, the Austrian foreign minister and his party paid a tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, visited his home and office and toured various cultural establishments and places of interest in Hanoi. He was received by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong. Talks were held between Vietnamese and Austrian foreign ministers, who have discussed the international and regional questions of mutual concern and measures to be taken to further strengthen the relationship between the two countries. They expressed their hope to further promote the economic, cultural and scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries. Foreign Minister L. Gratz renewed his invitation to Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach for a visit to Austria. The Vietnamese foreign minister accepted it with pleasure.

POLISH FOREIGN MINISTRY DELEGATION ENDS VISIT

OW071609 Hanoi VNA in English 1551 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 7 -- A Polish Foreign Ministry delegation led by Deputy Minister Ian Majewski, left here today, concluding its two-day visit to Vietnam as guest of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry. While here, the delegation paid a tribute at the Ho Chi Minh mausoleum. It was received by Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the C.P.V. Central Committee and foreign minister. Talks were held between the Polish delegation and a delegation of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry led by Vice Minister Hoang Bich Son. The two sides exchanged views on the relations between Vietnam and Poland and on the international and regional matters of mutual concern. They also discussed measures to strengthen the cooperation between the two ministries. A plan for cultural and scientific cooperation between Vietnam and Poland in the 1986-90 period was signed by Deputy Ministers Hoang Bich Son and I. Majewski. The signing ceremony was witnessed by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Polish Ambassador Marian Ejma Multanski.

PHAM VAN DONG PAYS TET VISIT TO HA SON BINH

BK050405 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] On the occasion of the party's 56th founding anniversary and the lunar new year of the tiger, Comrade Pham Van Dong, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, on 3 February visited and conveyed Tet greetings to cadres, members of the Armed Forces, and the people of Ha Son Binh Province. In a cordial atmosphere, Chairman Pham Van Dong expressed his pleasure at the achievements recorded by the province in the past and at the goals set by the cadres and people of Ha Son Binh for 1986 and the years that follow.

The chairman said: Ha Son Binh is the gateway to the capital of Hanoi. It has the Ha Son Binh hydroelectric power plant, one of our country's largest industrial projects. The province also has very great potentials in land, labor, and the various branches and trades, especially hilly and forest lands in its western part. The province's party organization should satisfactorily guide the distribution of labor and the development of agriculture along the line of combining it with forestry.

The chairman also urged Ha Son Binh Province to pay attention to developing industry and handicrafts, improving the distribution and circulation of goods, tightening market management, and stabilizing and gradually improving the living conditions of the working people and members of the Armed Forces in the province.

Also on this occasion, Chairman Pham Van Dong called on the Binh Minh Cooperative in Thanh Oai District, a unit which was recently decorated with the title of hero. In his cordial talk with cooperative members, the chairman warmly praised the cooperative's successes and wished it continued advancement so as to be truly worthy of its beautiful and meaningful name as the dawn of socialism and our nation's new socialist countryside, and to set a fine example for the entire country.

Enthused by the chairman's concern, the cooperative members pledged to carry out his instructions satisfactorily and, as an immediate step, to score an average paddy yield of 11 metric tons per hectares this year so as to merit another visit by the chairman.

'REAGAN STATEMENT' INDICATES SUPPORT OF MARCOS

MBS Report

HK110842 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in Tagalog 0740 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Capitalized passage in English]

[Excerpts] We have a press release, a news report from Washington:

THE WHITE HOUSE INDICATED MONDAY (TUESDAY IN MANILA) THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN EXPECTS PRESIDENT MARCOS TO WIN LAST FRIDAY'S ELECTION IN THE PHILIPPINES AND THAT THE U.S. WILL SUPPORT THE FILIPINO LEADER. THE EARLY EVENING NEWSCASTS OF THREE TELEVISION NETWORKS HERE REPORTED THAT MR REAGAN HAS SIGNALLED HIS ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY TO OTHER LEADERS OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT.

We have just read President Reagan's statement -- which was read here earlier -- in which the American President said that President Marcos is winning the election. President Reagan also asked Mrs Aquino and her followers to desist from mounting further demonstrations so that normal conditions may prevail in the country once again.

We have had requests from KBL leaders for copies of Reagan's statement and we will be sending them xerox copies of this PNA item as soon as possible. Meanwhile, we will read President Reagan's statement over the air again a little later for those listeners who missed hearing it.

PNA Report

BK110555 Manila PNA in English 0532 GMT 11 Feb 86

[By Rey P. Naval]

[Text] Washington, Feb. 11 (PNA) -- The White House indicated Monday (Tuesday in Manila) that President Reagan expects President Marcos to win last Friday's elections in the Philippines and that the U.S. will support the Filipino leader. The early evening newscasts of three television networks here reported that Mr. Reagan has signalled his administration's policy to other leaders of the American Government.

Chris Wallace, the White House reporter of the NBC, reported "the Reagan administration today tried to end the growing controversy about the Philippine election, signalling that it now expects Mr. Marcos to win and that it will continue to back him regardless." Wallace said a top Reagan administration official also sent a strong message to Mrs. Corazon Aquino asking her "not to have demonstrations in the streets because you did not like the election. "Get on the team and work with the government," the U.S. official advised her.

Although the U.S. media continue to harp on the alleged election frauds, the White House indicated it did not consider this as a factor to maintaining relations with the Manila government. NBC reported that President Reagan, in a speech before journalists Monday, questioned the allegations of frauds against Mr. Marcos.

Mr. Reagan will meet with Senator Richard Lugar (Republican, Nevada) at the White House today. Lugar is expected to brief the U.S. President on his observation of the Philippine election.

Reporting on Channel 7, Sam Donaldson, the ABC White House correspondent, said no matter whatever evidence of fraud is presented, the policy of making the best of it had already been set.

A White House official told reporters that "the question of fraud is only secondary. The main thing is that we have a strong ally (Marcos) in the Pacific."

Donaldson also reported that the White House warned Mrs Aquino against proceeding with her threat to hold daily demonstrations in Manila. She was advised to work with the government.

Channel 5 quoted President Reagan as saying that "in spite of those charges, there is at the same time the evidence that there is a strong two-party system in the island and we certainly are accustomed to that. [no closing quotation mark received] Channel 5 also reported that the relatively mild reaction of the White House and other U.S. officials to the chorus of charges of anomalies had disheartened Marcos critics in Washington, both Filipinos and Americans.

From Manila, Bill Redecker, NBC correspondent, also reported that "privately, some Aquino insiders say they are going to accept the reality of Philippine politics, though publicly they continued to maintain they have won." Redecker indicated that there is a growing realization among the opposition elements in Manila that Mrs Aquino did not win in the elections.

Monday afternoon, a group of 20 people demonstrated against the Philippine Government near the Philippine Embassy here. There were less than 10 Filipinos among the demonstrators, prompting a television announcer to remark that the opposition elements in Washington do not really carry a strong voice among the Filipino community here.

MARCOS OFFERS TO INCLUDE AQUINO ON NEW COUNCIL

OW110937 Tokyo KYODO in English 0930 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 11 KYODO -- President Ferdinand Marcos announced Tuesday he would create a "council of state" as the nation's highest advisory body, and he invited his presidential rival Mrs Corazon Aquino to be a member. "She could introduce whatever recommendations she may have" Marcos told a few reporters at a hastily-called press conference at the presidential palace. He said he would invite other opposition figures to be members in addition to Mrs Aquino. "Perhaps the cabinet will also be part of it so there can be discussions on basic implementation of policies."

Marcos said he was putting forward the concept of the council of state as a "formal proposal." He gave no further details and no reporters followed up on the subject.

Observers noted that President Marcos has made previous moves to create similar bodies, but none is considered to have played a major role. One such recent group was called the Executive Committee. It included top cabinet members plus leading experts from certain fields.

Asked if his pronouncements about his future plans meant he was officially claiming victory over Mrs Aquino in Friday's presidential election, Marcos replied with a laugh, "No, I am not claiming victory. I don't have to claim victory." He repeated previous statements that reliable reports reaching him made it clear he had scored a substantial win over Mrs Aquino.

Asked about widespread rumors that some of Mrs. Aquino's supporters were planning to set up a provisional government if the National Assembly did not proclaim Mrs. Aquino as the election victor, Marcos said, "any body can do anything. But a violation of the law at this stage would inflame the people. "I hear our people are already starting to argue. I heard there was a fistfight at the National Assembly involving our own supporters. This is childish. We claim we are politically mature -- more mature than the people elsewhere in Southeast Asia. "Let's forget a display of petulance just because our figures do not agree. This can be settled by comparing the various signatures and seeing which signatures are genuine."

He appealed to the people to keep calm, adding, "I personally will abide by whatever will be the result of the parliamentary canvass." He added, "My policy is not one of retaliation, and I will not retaliate against anyone who has campaigned against me."

Asked if he considered that the closeness of the various poll counts meant he had failed to get a mandate even if he did win, Marcos gave a broad answer, saying the vote showed that the poorer people were committed to fighting communism. He said the government made the fight against communism a major part of the election campaign, and the "complexion of the votes" showed that "those who supported me were our poor people." "The poor people are now known to be among the anti-communist groups. The vote shows that they are now ready to fight against the communists." He said the main support of Mrs. Aquino came from the elite.

MARCOS WARNS 'OPPOSITION HOODLUMS' ON UNREST

BK080948 Manila PNA in English 0939 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 8 PNA -- President Ferdinand Marcos Saturday [8 February] warned the so-called "opposition hoodlums" against fomenting anger and controversy while awaiting proclamation of the winners of Friday's elections. "I have asked the participation of all parties to bring about a quiet and a little more sobriety," the president said in an interview by an American television station. His appeal followed charges of frauds and harassments raised by the opposition during the presidential elections.

Opposition bet Corazon Aquino claimed victory Friday night, citing election returns tabulations by a privately-run citizens watchdog agency, the Namfrel [National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections].

But, Mr. Marcos said, neither the Namfrel nor the government's poll body, the Comelec [Commission on Elections], is authorized to proclaim the winners of Friday's political exercise. He said under the law, it is the National Assembly that proclaims the winners in any electoral contest.

Assembly Speaker Nicanor Yniguez earlier said he would convene the legislative body on Monday to officially canvass the election returns. He chided the Namfrel for tallying votes which are not official that only confuse the people.

The 68-year-old president also accused the Namfrel of reneging on its agreement with the Comelec that it would furnish the latter with the election results gathered from the fields. The pro-opposition Namfrel has been hiding the election returns, the president said. Namfrel was deputized by the Comelec to bring in election returns through couriers, who would then furnish both Namfrel and Comelec with the gathered returns. The couriers, the president said, have not done this.

MARCOS VOWS 'PEACEFUL TRANSITION' IF AQUINO WINS

BK081006 Manila PNA in English 0957 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Manila, Feb 8 (PNA) -- The media poll coverage, the president said, showed that he was winning with 13 million votes against Aquino's 11 million votes.

On opposition threat to demonstrate against him, the president said: "They are trying to blackmail our people and even the Comelec." However, he said, "We can handle everything that they throw at us," but stressed that "we would rather have reconciliation."

On reports that soldiers manhandled nuns and priests safekeeping ballot boxes, the president clarified it was not soldiers, but policemen. The policemen, the president said, merely tried to prevent the nuns and priests from handling the ballot boxes because under the law they are not supposed to handle these. "Handling them is an illegal act," the president said.

With early results showing him on the lead, the president said it is "unthinkable" that he would lose. But, he added, "if by any miracle she (Aquino) should win, I will perform my duties as president and work for a peaceful transition."

Mr Marcos also deplored that "most of the media in the United States have been engaged in trying to destabilize our government." According to him, the Filipino people "have reacted adversely to this kind of fabricated newsmaking."

Asked whether Aquino would accept his victory if it becomes final, the president said: "I would suppose that she is sane enough to know that she cannot proclaim herself, that we have to wait for the Batasang Pambansa (National Assembly) to be proclaimed. We cannot allow just anyone to proclaim a winning candidate. No. We have to follow the constitution and the law. And the law and the constitution say that it is the Parliament that must make the proclamation."

AQUINO ASKS WORLD NOT TO AID 'FAILING DICTATOR'

HK111134 Manila Radio Veritas in English 1005 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Here is the statement of Mrs Aquino on the Javier killing:

[Begin Aquino recording] Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen of the media. I wish to take this opportunity to address a message to my friends abroad. All of you have seen on your television screens and read in your newspaper of one of the most shameful election frauds ever perpetrated against the people in the name of democracy. You saw the violence, the stolen ballot boxes, the intimidation, the millions of voters whose franchise were stolen by deliberate confusion of voters' lists, and the substitution of serious returns. You saw the counters of the Comelec itself walk out in disgust because the official count was being distorted to reflect a Marcos victory. You saw a government pitted against his people. Above all, you saw a nation rise as one and choose a democratic way to power despite all that was stacked against us. And when the votes were in, we have won. Fraud and terrorism have eroded our landslide votes but have failed to cancel our victory. Suddenly, the counting was slowed down and the government reached again into its seemingly inexhaustible bag of tricks for yet another means to cheat the people of their victory.

Let me appeal to all friends of democracy and supporters of freedom abroad. Stand tall by these principles that you and I hold so dear. Do not make the mistake in the name of shortsighted self interest of coming to the support of a failing dictator. He is this very day trampling our hopes for democracy and peace as never before. He continues to steal our precious votes.

And last night, my campaign van was shot at and a young campaign worker was killed. This morning, Eviljo Javier, who helped me get the votes of Antique, was shot and killed by masked men outside the provincial capital. An electoral victory was stolen from Javier in 1984. Now, he has been taken away from his wife and children. In this time of need, we will learn who our real friends are.

Understand that we have won and that we will take power. Marcos is seeking constitutional respectability for his shameful electoral theft. In the name of democracy, we will not let him. May I also reassure the world that we mean to conclude this business as we began it, peacefully but determinedly. Our power has been the people and their spirits. His has been guns. We hope we do not have to mobilize this nation. We hope that Mr Marcos will find it in himself to concede now so that I can begin the process of reconciliation in a climate of amity, unity, and peace.

But let nobody as they view us now in our moment of national agony believe that this nation will not rise to claim what it has won -- the presidency. Our)?captivity) is at an end. Let nobody fool himself that we are going to stand by so the members of state are used to fix the votes and then return us to slavery. The Marcos years are over. The people have overcome. It is not just in the interest of the Filipino people but our allies as well that the transition takes place now. [end recording]

PANEL SET UP TO CONSIDER AQUINO'S OPTIONS

OW101015 Tokyo KYODO in English 1009 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 10 KYODO -- Philippine opposition leaders have set up a five-member committee to consider what their response should be if President Ferdinand Marcos does not concede defeat to Corason Aquino following last Friday's election, a spokesman for Aquino said Monday. Lawyer Rene Saguisag said at a press conference the committee was formed Saturday night because Marcos was "not reasonable" and did not appear willing to concede defeat.

Aquino claimed victory a day after the polls and announced she wanted a meeting with Marcos to discuss a peaceful transition of government.

Saguisag said the committee will decide on "responses" of the opposition and the Filipino people "in the face of blatant attempts to cheat us of victory." Saguisag did not disclose the options the opposition was considering, saying, "It's best to keep Marcos guessing."

He said the committee includes Aquino and her vice presidential running mate, former Senator Salvador Laurel. He declined to name the three other members. Saguisag said that according to their own count, Aquino was leading with 7,916,227 votes against Marcos' 7,431,169 as of 1 p.m. Monday. He added that Aquino was ahead in nine out of 13 administrative regions in the country, including Metropolitan Manila.

He said the Government used vote padding, delays in tabulation of results, disenfranchisement of opposition voters, bribery and harassment in an attempt to allow Marcos to win.

CARDINAL SIN SPEAKS TO NAMFREL VOLUNTEERS

HK110950 Hong Kong AFP in English 0927 GMT 11 Feb 86

[By Sue Kendall]

[Excerpts] Manila, Feb 11 (AFP) -- The murder of a leading opposition supporter brought the death toll in poll-linked violence to almost 100 today as the National Assembly prepared to start an official count of returns from Friday's presidential election.

Evilio Javier, 43-year-old provincial campaign manager for opposition candidate Corazon Aquino was gunned down on the steps of the provincial capitol building in San Jose, Antique, some 400 miles (640 kilometers) south of here, military spokesmen said.

In Manila, about 800 people camped in tents outside the National Assembly building where they anticipated a long wait for the law-making body to formally tally the results and pronounce the winner.

The country's top Roman Catholic prelate, Jaime Cardinal Sin, today told Namfrel volunteers at their quick-count center that if Mr. Marcos continued to dispute Namfrel's figures which show Mrs. Aquino in the lead, then Mr. Marcos would have to be called a "liar."

Cardinal Sin said he had written a letter to Mr. Marcos after he had heard charges that Namfrel was using spurious data, and hailed the citizens' movement for "being the vanguard of the movement to restore freedom to the Philippines." He confirmed that the nations' Roman Catholic bishops would meet Thursday to issue a statement on the elections.

Earlier Namfrel volunteers were told by Cardinal Sin's Manila deputy, Bishop Bacani, that Manila bishops had met this morning and concluded that "massive fraud and violence" had substantially altered the outcome of the elections in the capital.

OPLA DECRIES AQUINO VICTORY CLAIM AS 'DANGEROUS'

BK110652 Manila PNA in English 0643 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 11 (PNA) -- A senior administration official Tuesday said opposition bet Corazon Aquino's victory statement showed "she seems prepared to plunge the country into a bloody confrontation." Labor Minister Blas F. Ople said "It is an extremely dangerous post-election statement fraught with portents of civil disturbances and national fratricide."

Aquino claimed victory last Friday night, hours after the voting ended in the presidential elections pitting her and reelectionist President Ferdinand Marcos. She told foreign newsmen she based her claim on tabulations of the privately-run Namfrel, an election watchdog agency, and those of independent poll watchers.

In his statement, Ople said "Mrs Aquino seems to be prepared to plunge the country into a bloody confrontation if that must be the cost of fulfilling her ambition after it has been thwarted in the polls." The senior administration official was referring to Aquino's statement that she would not abide by any decision that does not uphold her victory over Marcos.

Ople has urged the National Assembly "to perform its task with the greatest dispatch possible with the least acrimony possible." The National Assembly is the only constitutionally created agency that is officially authorized to canvass votes and proclaim the winners.

"It owes to the nation that to end the post-election tensions due to a close race and deny any opportunity to those who would inflame the people and incite them into civil strife for ulterior purposes or self-aggrandizement," Ople said. He added: "The existing post-election tensions require that if necessary the assembly should attempt to complete its task within 48 hours."

AQUINO NOT TO LEAD ELECTION PROTEST RALLY

HK100820 Hong Kong AFP in English 0815 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 10 (AFP) -- Opposition supporters are to stage a rally here today to protest alleged cheating in Friday's presidential election, but it will not be led by opposition candidate Corason Aquino, her spokesman said. "She is not going" to lead the rally, the director of her media bureau, Teddy Locsin said. He would not give any other details.

Mr. Locsin had earlier told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that Mrs. Aquino -- who faced President Ferdinand Marcos in the vote -- would lead the rally to the National Assembly, which is due to start the official count of results today. About 2,000 people had already gathered around the assembly building.

Mrs. Aquino would attend a Thanksgiving mass, but "we are not protesting at the moment," her spokesman Rene Saguisag told a press conference. Mrs. Aquino had vowed to lead daily peaceful protests if she was cheated of victory. There have been widespread allegations of cheating in the vote and violence connected with the election has claimed 95 lives since the campaign began December 6 police said here.

BAYAN TO SUPPORT AQUINO DAILY RALLIES NATIONWIDE

OW090616 Tokyo KYODO in English 0553 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 9 KYODO -- The militant alliance that led a boycott of the presidential elections declared Sunday that it will support opposition candidate Mrs. Corason "Cory" Aquino if she leads daily demonstrations to protest fraud and terrorism in Friday's polls. The 53-year old widow of assassinated opposition leader Benigno Aquino has said that she will lead daily demonstrations if she is cheated out of her election victory by President Ferdinand Marcos.

Mrs. Aquino Saturday claimed victory in the snap elections saying that she garnered 55 percent of the first 6,000,000 votes counted. "We will be in full support of Mrs. Aquino if she leads daily demonstrations," Lean Alejandro, secretary general of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan -- New Patriotic Alliance) told a news conference Sunday. "We view this as very positive move on her part," he added.

Alejandro said the leftist alliance, which claims to have 130 member organizations with 2 million members over the country, will hold nationwide demonstrations within the week to protest "massive electoral fraud and terrorism."

BATASAN SPEAKER PROPOSES U.S. BASES STUDY GROUP

HK071555 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 7 Feb 86 p 18

[Text] Batasan speaker Nicanor E. Yniguez yesterday proposed the formation of a U.S.-Philippine legislative group to consider the future status of U.S. military facilities in the Philippines.

Yniguez made the proposal before the official election observer mission sent by President Ronald Reagan at a breakfast meeting at the Manila Hotel. The mission is headed by Republican Sen. Richard G. Lugar, chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In making the proposal, Yniguez said that the legislative panel "meet on occasion in the United States and in the Philippines during 1986-1987," adding that "we who represent the peoples of our two countries (must) turn our common attention promptly to the question of the future of the military bases. I hope you will share with us the perception that joint findings U.S. Congress and the Philippine Batasang Pambansa could be of immense value in the next negotiation of the military bases agreement," Yniguez said.

In response, Lugar said Yniguez's proposal was "far reaching and no doubt carefully planned."

The military bases agreement between the U.S. and the Philippines expires in 1991 and negotiation for its future status is expected to commence before then. The agreement enables the United States to maintain military facilities at Subic Naval and Clark Air bases, projecting its military power from the Pacific to the Indian Ocean and beyond.

At the breakfast meeting, Yniguez, touching on the elections, said that regardless of who wins, the country will still be confronted with the need to reach a "mutually satisfactory understanding" on the future of the military bases. "The sooner we resolve the issue, as a source of anxiety, the better for our two peoples. We can then proceed to the building of other aspects of U.S.-Philippine cooperation on a sound foundation," Yniguez said.

For his part, Lugar said his delegation was touched by warm welcome given them by the bipartisan Batasan group at the breakfast conference. "We look forward to talking to all the parties involved to discuss this problem (of the military bases) and we are elated to say it is nonpartisan." He said the Americans share with Filipinos a common desire for friendship. He said he looks forward to the task involved "to prepare us for our future."

In commenting on the objectives of the Lugar mission, Labor Minister Blas Ople said that while he advocates "maximum surveillance" of the election process, he stressed that election cheating "is not a weakness of our culture." At the same time, Ople noted that good government can't be helped by the use of vituperation. "It should not be assumed that only one party has monopoly of interest in clean elections," he said, adding that "this is a goal shared by all political parties in the Philippines." Ople also stressed that the presence of the Lugar mission is based on preliminary reports of previous study groups here that measures for clean elections are in place and that these are satisfactory.

John F. Murtha, Democratic representative from Pennsylvania and co-chairman of the Lugar delegation, said that the mission "is a symbolic way of showing to all our support for free elections." He noted, however, that, beyond the matter of the bases, the mission is also interested in the future growth of the Filipino people and the ties of friendship between the Philippines and the United States.

The official U.S. election observer group arrived Wednesday night and is composed of four U.S. senators, five representatives, a panel of American businessmen, civic leaders and retired government officials.

Its members are Sen. Thad Frank Murkowski (Rep.-Alaska); Rep. Samuel S. Stratton (Dem-New York); Rep. Robert Livingston (Rep-Louisiana); Rep. Jerry Lewis (Rep.-California); Rep. Bernard Dwyer (Dem.-New Jersey); Jack Brier, secretary of state of Kansas; Fred F. Fielding, counsel to President Reagan; retired Admiral Robert L.J. Long; Natalie Meyer, secretary of state of Colorado; Bishop Adam J. Mida of Green Bay, Wisconsin; Larry Nicksch, specialist in Asian Affairs, Congressional Research Services; Ms. Norma Paulus, former secretary of state of Oregon; Van Smith, chairman and president, Ontario Corporation and former president of the United States Chamber of Commerce; Ben J. Wattenberg, co-editor, PUBLIC OPINION magazine of the American Enterprise Institute; Prof. Allen Weinstein, president, the Center for Democracy; and Mortimer B. Zuckerman, chairman and editor-in-chief, U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT.

CARDINAL SIN SUPPORTS NAMFREL ADVANCE COUNT

OW111049 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 11 KYODO -- Manila Archbishop Cardinal Jaime Sin Tuesday expressed full support for the volunteer election watchdog, National Citizens Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel), which is conducting an advance count of votes in last Friday's presidential elections. Sin visited Namfrel's tabulation center inside the De la Salle University gym in a suburb west of Manila where 500 volunteers, mostly students, applauded his five-minute impromptu address. Namfrel, which was accredited as an impartial citizen arm of the government, has been accused of favoring the opposition and denounced for tabulating alleged spurious results that showed opposition candidate Mrs. Corason Aquino winning against President Ferdinand Marcos.

"I know that Namfrel is doing its best to restore the freedom of the Filipino people and we have to publicly say that you are the light," said the 59-year old spiritual leader of the predominantly Catholic nation. "We are supposed to inspire you," he said, "but you inspired us, the bishops." The prelate invited Namfrel to an appreciation mass next Tuesday for Namfrel volunteers, three of whom had already been killed in election violence.

Sin, a frequent critic of Marcos, was loudly applauded when he said: "We will abide with you, we will support you to the end."

At the time of his visit at 1:30 p.m. Namfrel's tally board showed Mrs. Aquino leading with 6,658,838 votes against Marcos who had 5,971,693 votes.

The government's Commission on Elections (Comelec) separate count in the plush Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) put Marcos in the lead with 5,502,354 votes against Mrs. Aquino's 5,012,985 votes.

Asked whether he will also visit the Comelec, Sin said, smiling, "I have no time."

He said he will not make any statement on the elections because of its "political implications" but warned in a homily Sunday that the country would be torn apart as a result of an electoral victory by either candidate through deceit, manipulation or terror.

BATASANG ENACTS VOTE COUNTING MEASURES, ADJOURNS

HK110011 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] The Batasang Pambansa adjourned its session last night [10 February] after creating an 11-man board of tellers to canvass the results of the just-concluded presidential and vice presidential elections.

The canvass is expected to start today, when the Batasan resumes session. The board of tellers, to be headed by Speaker Nicanor Yniguez, was proposed by assistant majority floor leader Arturo Pacificador.

The board of tellers will canvass the returns in the presence of the members of parliament assembled in session. The members of the board are members of parliament Rodolfo Albano, Salvador Britanico, Concordio Dial, and Manolito Asok for the KBL; Aquilino Pimentel, Marcelo Fernan, (Westelito Envaes), and Edmundo Cea for the opposition; Rafael Palmares from the independent sector; and Flores Bayut for the sectoral representatives.

There are already 60 certificates of canvass submitted to the office of the speaker by provincial and city boards of canvassers from 23 provinces, 32 cities, and 5 districts of Metro Manila. A total of 77 certificates of canvass are still to be delivered to the Batasan. Deputy Prime Minister Jose Rono said the Batasan can finish the canvass within 48 hours, depending on the availability of certificates of canvass.

During the session yesterday, Speaker Yniguez had to recess the session due to the clapping by opposition supporters from the gallery. It was noted that they even raised their hands with the Laban [fight] sign while the national anthem was being sung.

ASSEMBLY ADJOURNS WITH NO VOTES COUNTED

HK101500 Hong Kong AFP in English 1448 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 10 (AFP) — The Philippine National Assembly adjourned today without having counted a single vote less than four hours after it convened to tally an official result of Friday's presidential election. The session was adjourned until tomorrow as government and opposition MP's reached a compromise on the arrangements for carrying out the count.

Meanwhile, an opposition leader charged President Ferdinand Marcos's ruling New Society Movement (KBL) party with trying to rush the proceedings, after earlier wanting to delay the count, and warned that the opposition might take its protest to the streets. "This is our last formal official stand, after which all proceeding will be extra-constitutional," Ramon Mitra told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. "We will join the people in the streets," he added.

Some 5,000 people had gathered outside the Assembly and a group of about 200 supporters of opposition candidate Corason Aquino booed and jeered at KBL MP's as they left the building.

Some 800 people, mostly students and residents of a nearby slum area, had set up tents in the grounds of the Assembly complex to guard against any attempt to switch returns, eyewitnesses said.

Tension and confusion have been rising here since the election, which capped a bitter two-month campaign, amid widespread allegations of poll fraud, continuing violence and conflicting unofficial poll counts.

The opposition and government today reached a compromise agreement that a nine-member tally board composed of four opposition and government members and chaired by parliamentary Speaker Nicanor Yniguez would conduct the official count of the votes in the presence of Assembly members. Mr. Yniguez was Mr. Marcos's campaign manager in the election.

But the opposition, which said soon after the session opened that "it is possible that the integrity of the returns which have been received here will be questioned," maintained an objection against the decision to allow no debate on the count until it was over, in order to speed up the process.

An opposition motorcade of about 100 vehicles proceeded to the Assembly after a mass in Manila's Makati business district, where Mrs Aquino vowed to "take power" from President Marcos and said he was desperately using the Constitution to rob her of an election triumph.

COMELEC OFFICIALS DISCUSS TABULATION ISSUE

HK090827 Quason City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0720 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Press conference held by Commission on Elections officials at the Philippine International Convention Center -- live]

[Text] [Unidentified voice] Welcome to the Comelec tabulation center, I would like to apologize for the delay. [Passage indistinct] for your questions, we have a microphone here, and for those in the back, we have installed another microphone. So, we may now start for a brief opening by Commissioner Marquinez.

[Marquinez] Good afternoon everybody. Actually, I'm not supposed to be the one you will interview today. It is supposed to be Chairman Savellano, but due to the fact that you are here, and Chairman Savellano or Commissioner Opinion is not here at the moment, I was requested to pitch in. They are supposed to come anytime now. Well, I was told that he was on his way. But anyway, if you have any questions that you would like to ask, I will try to answer with the best of my ability.

[Moderator] We may now start the question and answer portion. Yes, will you come over and identify yourself.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Commissioner, last night Namfrel Chairman Jose Concepcion said that they will continue counting the ballots, the tabulation despite an earlier order from the Comelec to stop. So what is your reaction?

[Marquinez] We did not order the stopping of the counting of Namfrel, as alleged. In fact, I tried to explain this to you that we had an agreement with Namfrel that we will have an advanced, joint advance tabulation along parallel lines. And that we hope that what is done by that is that we should be able to get the same sources, we should get them from the same sources, and the agreement was that the Namfrel representatives will be able, should be able to get the election returns from our respective precincts. They claim that they can do it, that they said that they have a lot of people and they will assist us in trying to retrieve election returns, the PTS [Precinct Tally Sheets], that they have, if you recall they have this precinct tally board, and that they would be accompanied with duplicates and together with this, the Comelec form No. 13. Now, these Namfrel representatives will have to go to the precincts and identify themselves that they are securing these results of the elections. The PTS will be actually done by the Namfrel representatives and that will be authenticated by the chairman of the board of election inspectors. Under the law, the board of election inspectors are supposed to initial these election returns, these PTS, and after which, these PTS, together with Comelec form No. 13, will be brought to the election registrars of the municipality. And the (no. 4 copy) of the election returns is in turn given to election registrars or, er, and the, er, will open the envelope and check and compare the figures contained in the PTS of the Namfrel and that of the No. 4 copy. If the data are the same, then the election registrars will initial it and release it to the election official, the carrier, and the carrier, in turn, will bring into Manila through RCPi [Radio Communications of the Philippines, INC] and PT&T [Philippine Telephone and Telegraph] or [words indistinct].

Gentlemen, we have our senior commissioner Jaime Opinion who will actually hold the interview.

[Opinion] Good afternoon. We are happy that the foreign press is represented in this press conference together with our local media. Now, may we just inform the media that the Commission on Elections has to convene this press conference hurriedly in order to clarify some reports that we feel are baseless indictments of the Commission on Elections.

This morning, we heard on television that Senator RICHARD Lugar, cochairman of the presidential delegation to observe -- and may I emphasize the word observe -- our elections last Friday commented that the Commission on Elections is manipulating the results of that Friday's elections because we are not tallying as fast and as quick as Namfrel. So, we called this conference to explain to you how our tallies are being made here.

Firstly, I state here that the Commission on Elections is a constitutional commission. It is an independent body created by our constitution. It is independent of the president, independent of the political parties, independent of the president, independent of the political parties, independent of any government agencies, so I think the senator was not properly advised when he said that Comelec is government, that Comelec is KBL. [applause and unidentifiable shouts]

Comelec is an independent constitutional commission [interrupted by boos]. I am just wondering what this reaction is at the back; I think if the people there think that they want freedom in this country, that they want free speech, perhaps they should go into another group. [shouts] I know where these people are. I am just wondering what will happen if they were in government.

Now, we are an independent constitutional commission and we have done the best that we can to make sure that we are able to perform our duties in accordance with the mandate of the Constitution, the, in short, that the elections are clean, and among the most important steps that we took was to accredit the Namfrel and everybody in this country knows that Namfrel was objected to because of its partisanship, because of its identification with the opposition. And yet they say [boos, chants of "Namfrel"] and yet we said that we are giving Namfrel a chance.

Now, I'm showing to you a brochure that will show -- which is the special operations manual of the Unido [United Nationalist Democratic Organizations] which is the official opposition party in this country -- right here, it is stated that the Unido and Namfrel shall coordinate with each other. Hence, and I am reading, a national, provincial committee or municipal Unido representatives or leaders shall establish parallel linkage with Namfrel to coordinate efforts and services in pursuing the following objectives. And No. 3 says that national, provincial, and city tally of votes independent of the Comelec Official Quick Count, to publicly announce these election results based on the Unido copy of the elections results and the certificate of canvas prior to the official proclamation of the president and the vice president by the Batasang Pambansa. This is now what Namfrel is doing.

But unfortunately, they are not making any announcement based on the election returns or the certificates of canvas. We have always insisted that they produce these documents, but they have failed to show these to us. Instead, they continued to tabulate results which we cannot imagine the source.

Well, just an hour ago, I was listening to former Senator Maceda and he said it is easy for us to check the sources of their figures because they say it is easy for us to call our provincial offices, our regional offices, to find out if their tallies are correct or not.

Now, as I stated yesterday, we received several phone-in reports and radio reports from our provincial and regional offices. But, as I explained we refrained from putting these into our tally board because we wanted these [shouts] to be relayed. [break in transmission] Well, I'm sorry.

We say that we have these telephone reports and according to the reports that we have received from the provinces, the total votes so far after the tally, the incomplete tallies of the different provincial board of canvassers and the reports of the provincial elections officers and the regional election officers, as of last night, President Marcos has obtained 5,846,875 votes as against Corazon Aquino's 5,395,860 [applause]. You will notice that by these figures, President Marcos is winning and [shouts of "Cory"] per reports we received late this afternoon but, I mean late this morning, but which we have not yet collated, the lead of President Marcos has increased. Now, these figures will be backed up by evidence later on by way of the certificate of canvas that will be submitted to the Batasang Pambansa by the several boards of canvassers from the cities and the provinces. And these certificates of canvass will be the basis under our constitution for the tabulation of the election results on the basis of which the winning candidate will be proclaimed by the Batasang Pambansa.

Let me inform you that under our constitutional processes, it is only the Batasang Pambansa that proclaims the winning candidates for president and vice president, and it is only the Batasang Pambansa that officially tabulates the election results for president and vice president. And that the only basis for the tabulation of the votes for president and vice president are the certificates of canvas of votes made by the provincial board of canvassers of the several provinces in the country, by the city board of canvassers of the several cities in the country, and by the district board of canvassers in Metro Manila.

The Namfrel count, the Comelec count, any other counts is not the official basis of the proclamation of the Batasang Pambansa. [boos] However, pursuant to our mandate under the constitutional law, the Commission on Elections decided to conduct this tabulation of advanced results in order that we can inform the people ahead of the results of the elections before the official proclamation is made, but we wanted that this should be an accurate count, that it should not be different from the official count made by Batasang Pambansa and the provincial board of canvassers. That is the reason why we insisted all along that we will use the (?fourth copy) of the election returns. This is the only document that is official as prepared by the members of board of election inspectors, which in accordance with the electoral processes of the United States, could be likened to your board of election judges. No other documents shall be made the basis of the official results in the precinct level, not even the so-called certificate of votes that the Namfrel claims to have gathered from the board of canvassers.

Let me tell you what this precinct tally sheet of the Namfrel is. During the negotiations that we had with Namfrel in connection with this quick count, Namfrel informed us that they printed this precinct tally sheet. They printed these themselves without getting any clearance from the Commission on Elections despite the fact that they are our citizens arm. And they prepared these in three copies and they said that they are going to use these for purposes of securing the results from the precincts. We told them that we cannot allow this because this is not an official document. And since this is a document that they themselves prepared and printed, we said that this can easily be the subject of substitution because no safeguard had been made to protect the integrity of this document, the precinct tally sheets of Namfrel, unlike the election return of the Commission on Elections.

Our election return is after the tally of votes of each candidate, thumb-printed by the members of the board of election inspectors. They are initialed after each tally and they are signed by the four members of the board of election inspectors. After these are signed and thumb-printed, they are folded and then sealed with a special paper clip. Thereafter, they are placed inside a specially prepared envelope which is again sealed on each lap and again countersealed by a special paper seal. All of these with serial numbers because these are accountable for. So we would know what particular return, what particular envelope, what particular paper seal have been tampered, what particular precinct, so that we would know if there has been any substitution.

Then the envelopes are also signed by members of the board of election inspectors and they are thumb-printed. And these are in 6 copies. The original of this election return is a watermarked paper. It is a specially manufactured paper, and the printing of these election returns were done at the government printing office in the presence of the representatives of the opposition party the Unido and in the presence of the ruling party representatives of the KBL, and in the presence of the Namfrel and in the presence of the printing committee that the Commission on Elections prepares. Even the manufacture of this paper, this watermarked paper, was witnessed and guarded by the representatives of the political parties and the Namfrel.

These are the safeguards we have instituted to ensure the integrity of the election returns. So that when Namfrel was insisting on the use of their precinct tally sheets, after several days and several hours of negotiations, we agreed that these precinct tally forms of Namfrel can be used on condition that they are first authenticated by the election registrars, after this is compared with the election returns.

But Namfrel never did this and now claims that they are tallying the results in the tabulation board with or without the use of authenticated document. And Senator Maceda claims on television that this can easily be checked whether it is true or not true by just calling the provincial election supervisors and the regional directors of the Commission on Elections.

And as I said, we precisely have done that already, and these are the results that we have gathered from our provincial and regional offices showing that as of last night President Marcos was leading by 451,015 votes [boos]. As I said, the official results will be done, will be proclaimed by the Batasang Pambansa on the basis of the certificates of votes that are being submitted to the Batasang Pambansa by the several provincial boards of canvassers and city boards of canvassers. And several of these certificates have already been submitted. But one thing is clear, Namfrel has admitted that it has violated the agreement with Commission on Elections [boos and shouts] and they have not done anything in order to live by this agreement. It is unfortunate that this has happened because Namfrel claims that it is committed to clean, orderly, and honest elections. If it is so, then why have they initiated this tally of the votes in violation of our agreement and without using the (hard copy) that can protect the integrity of this result and instead continued to balloon [as heard] with their tabulation, ending only in confusing our people as to the results.

We project that this election will be a close one, possible on the basis of the document and the results that have been submitted, the margin of President Marcos will be close. As of this afternoon, last night, as I said, per telephone reports from the provinces, he is leading by only 451,015, but this represents only about 47 percent of the precincts so far reported. We do not know if this will increase but we have also received reports already, for instance, this morning before I came, I received a report from our provincial, our regional director of Region 12 which is northern Mindanao composed of the Lanao Provinces, that the president is anticipated or expected, after the canvas of the votes, to win that region by about 350,000 votes. They have only submitted to us the results of Lanao Sur because the others are still in the process of the canvass of the votes.

So this is the situation. We hope that Senator Lugar is clarified. It is unfortunate that he made the claim about this manipulation without even visiting our process of tabulations here. But, however, I was fortunate to explain the process to Senator Murkowski who is a member of the delegation. So far, Senator Lugar has visited the Namfrel tabulation center and he has not visited the PICC [Philippine International Convention Center] tabulation center. If we have to say it in Tagalog, Wala yata sa Lugar si Senator Lugar sa kanyang mga sinabi. [Senator Lugar is not in a position to make those statements.] So I am ready for your questions.

[Kline] Frank Kline, NEW YORK TIMES. Do you have any sense from the reaction of Senator Lugar that people here and, if you've been out on the streets, from the people in your country, that you have any sort of a credibility problem, particularly vis-a-vis Namfrel?

[Opinion] Yes, the Commission on Elections has a credibility problem, but I hope you will forgive me if I say that it is more because of the Western press. For instance, even before Senator Lugar came to this country, he already said that he believes in the Namfrel and not in the Commission on Elections. came to observe, but they came to observe Namfrel and not the Commission on Elections. This is unfortunate, and I wish this could be looked at, clarified, and hope that the good senator will give the Commission on Elections a chance to explain this situation of our tabulation, why it is delayed.

First, let me inform you, Mr Kline, that this country is composed of 7,000 islands. Our means of transportation is not as sophisticated as it is in the United States. The furthest barangay or barrio where a polling center is located will probably take some 3 days to transport the ballot box and the election returns to the office of the election registrar. In my own province, for instance, there are nine barrios in (Mohnon) Island where Magellan first landed when he discovered this country, the Philippines in 1521, and there are about 11 precincts in this island. And it will take courage to cross the Pacific especially when the weather is very bad, so that sometimes it will take even a week before these election returns can be brought to the poblacion or to the town. And then from the town, to the provincial capital, where the canvassing is to be made and where the transmitting station is, and where the first means of transportation firmly secured. It will take some time, a day or two, if you have a chance [chants of "Cory," "Cory"]

[Moderator] Please, please we are asking the audience, this is a press conference.

[Opinion] Deliveries of these election returns and then the transmission of the election results [sentence as heard]. Our means of communication here is not as fast as in the United States. Like when you hold a presidential election, you already have the result in New York, and yet the people in Hawaii are just starting to vote, and a presidential candidate already concedes defeat even before the people of Hawaii have started to go to the polls. Yes please.

[Unidentified reporter] Was the commission aware of this delay in advance, because we were all led to believe from these people here in smocks and so forth that there would be something timely to come forth. The senator, who is a professional politician, apparently became suspicious when the numbers suddenly slowed down after the initial indication in favor of Mrs Aquino.

[Opinion] The commission was aware of the possible delay. The delay would be in the transmission of the results from the precinct itself to the transmitting station, which in the provinces are the RPCI, the PT&T, or the Bureau of Telecommunications, and here in Manila, to the PICC tabulation center.

There will be no problem if the results are already received here for processing, because it will take just a few hours to have the results processed, but the delay in the transmittal of the returns from the precincts to the transmitting stations -- this was the reason why originally we conceived a computerization program, where we wanted to install these computers right in the provinces. We wanted to have 300 of these, install them in the provinces, so that the election results, instead of being brought to the PICC tabulation center, can easily be brought to the computer stations which we wanted established in 300 different points in the country.

But again, because of the efforts of some groups in this country to disallow the Comelec from conducting any tabulation, a terrific pressure through the media was launched in order to scuttle this computer communications system that the Commission on Elections wanted to install. We were able to explain this to Mr Weinstein, who was the head of the delegation for Center for Democracy, and who I understand is a member of the official delegation of Senator Lugar. But we have had to discontinue this computerization program because of the several suspicions of people that we were going to make a super-quick hit of the election. So we dismantled this, and we had to content ourselves with this kind of a system. And we called upon our citizens' arm to help us, because they said that they want to help us, that they want to make sure that the elections are clean, so we depended on them in good faith, we depended on their people to bring those returns, only to find out that they refused to cooperate.

[Name indistinct] NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC. Sir, with all due respect to your response regarding the credibility question, while there may indeed have been some Western press cause here, it is well known, and in fact there has been an international congress recently concluded here involving some of the finest fellows in the world, including your own, that there has been a massive politicalization of the Philippine bureaucracy over the past 10 years. I suppose it refers specifically to an in-depth study by Professor Luis Tanchanco of the University of the Philippines, which documents this study, thus giving all of us good reason to suspect, if not to blame. Could you comment on that, sir?

[Opinion] Well, that's (?not) our trouble, because some people would just like to go by one (?critic). But you know our system here is much different from the system of the United States, and I do not think it will be fair to judge our political forces using the standard of any foreign country.

What were you saying sir, what was the other finding of that study? [confused hubbub] you were saying politicalization? That is not correct sir, if by your statement you were saying that the independent commissions, like the Commission on Audit, the Commission on Elections, and the Commission on Civil Service, are politicalized agencies of this government, that is not correct sir, with due respect to that study.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Opinion] That is right, but I am saying that that study is not correct, because these two or three constitutional commissions are independent constitutional commissions, and they are independent of the political structures of our government.

[Unidentified reporter] You say that Namfrel has violated the agreement with you, you said that Namfrel had violated an agreement with you to convey the information to you. But last night Mr Jose Concepcion had sent a letter to Mr Savellano saying that Comelec itself has violated four points in the agreement, and among them is that the election registrars at the provincial level have been adopting delaying tactics in not signing the election returns, and that you have reneged on the contract on the telegram company not to transmit the data by RCPI but only through ITT. Therefore they could not cooperate [words indistinct]. What do you have to say to that?

[Opinion] That is not so. That is a lie. Firstly, it is not true that we have an agreement to continue the poll count of the media or the KBP [Kapisanan ng Mga Brodkaster sa Pilpinas -- Association of Broadcasters in the Philippines], they were asking for that, but we said that we do not have to do that, because the media, the press media and the broadcast media poll count is not covered by our agreement, and they are not going to make any quick count. They are just going to tabulate the results on the basis for purposes of the use of their papers and their radio stations that are members of the KBP.

[Unidentified reporter] They say that the election registrars at the provincial level have been adopting delaying tactics in not filing the returns.

[Opinion] I was getting to that, because that was your second question. It is not again true that our election registrars have adopted delaying tactics. They are [words indistinct] the several election returns, the fourth copy of the election returns, which we asked the election registrars to bring here, after the Namfrel refused to give to us their precinct tally sheets. And we asked them, if ever they were approached by any representative of the Namfrel for authentication of their precinct tally sheets, and they denied having been approached. That is why they could not authenticate it. And then, but we suspected all along that this will be a reason, escape clause that the Namfrel will try to take advantage of, because in the original discussions that we made, they were insisting that they can use the precinct tally sheet if the election registrar is not available or if the election registry refuses to authenticate. But we say that this cannot happen, because on election day the election registrars will be in their offices until all the election returns have been accounted for, they will be present, so we say that there will be no place for this. But anyway, we said, even assuming that the election registrar will not be there to authenticate, then that means that in the particular precinct neither Namfrel nor Comelec will have an authenticated result, because the election registrar is not there to authenticate.

But how come that they have their results and we do not have the results, if it is true that the election registrar was not there to authenticate? If the election registrar was not there to authenticate, then that means they just continued to use their own precinct tally sheets without authentication. They claim that these are signed by the members of the board of election inspectors, but how are we sure that the signatures appearing there are indeed the signatures of the members of the board of election inspectors, without comparing them with the genuine signatures appearing in the election returns? That is what makes this particular document highly suspicious, and because they do not have authentication by our election registrars, that's why I said that is a spurious document.

Now, gentlemen of the press, I think you have noticed how it is in our country, how the noisy, the small segment of this country can disrupt [shouts] a press conference like this. You can see how impolite a small segment of this country can be. So I am sorry, we have to close this conference because of the presence of these hecklers [confused hubbub]. What precisely they are heckling, because they are listening to what I am saying [confused shouts]. Alright gentlemen, thank you for coming, and thank you for your questions. [confused shouts]

PNA REPORTS ON HIGH VOTER TURNOUT 7 FEBRUARY

BK090222 Manila PNA in English 0202 GMT 9 Feb 86

[By Iluminado Varela Jr.]

[Excerpt] Manila, Feb. 9 (PNA) -- Friday's presidential election registered one of the highest voters turnout since the national election of 1946 in the Philippines. The government's Commission on Elections (Comelec), analyzing the unprecedented enthusiasm generated by the snap election, cited various reasons for the record number of people who participated in the political exercise. At least 85 to 90 percent of the 26.1 million registered voters cast their votes. This is way above the average 79.81 percent based on the results of 26 national elections -- from the 1946 presidential elections to the May 14, 1984 Batasan (Assembly) polls. Comelec said the highest percentage of the electorate who actually votes was registered in the Nov. 13, 1951 local and national elections. In that election, 4,391,109 out of the 4,754,307 (or 92.36 percent) persons voted.

COMELEC CHAIRMAN SATISFIED WITH VOTER TURN-OUT

HK080442 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Comelec Chairman Victorino Savellano breathed a sigh of relief over yesterday's generally peaceful balloting. He said only isolated cases of violence were reported. The most serious was the attempt on the life of a vice mayor in Dumarao, Capiz.

[Begin Savellano recording] Of course we are happy that there was no major incident except the report from Dumarao, Capiz. The KBL vice mayor, Ruben Pamplona, was shot while he was voting and he was ambushed together with three others. In general, even in the Metro Manila area there were really no major incidents; there were of course some reports here about people not finding their names. I think the voter turn-out is very good. If I may hazard a guess, I think that we have about 85-90 percent of the voters turning out [words indistinct]. [end recording]

COMELEC TO CONTINUE TABULATION OF RETURNS

HK100628 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0600 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] The Commission on Elections will still continue the tabulation of election returns even as the Batasang Pambansa is set to start its official canvass of votes this afternoon. Comelec Commissioner Jaime Opinion made this announcement in today's Kapihan sa Maynila [Manila Coffeeshop] conference at the Manila Hotel. Opinion said that without completing the tabulation of the votes, the Batasan official canvas would be incomplete. [sentence as heard] The certificates of canvass, he added, have yet to be sent to the Batasan.

COMELEC URGED TO PROBE NAMFREL 'INTIMIDATION'

HK080508 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] The Comelec was urged to probe deeper into several incidents involving Namfrel volunteers in Metro Manila on election day. There are allegations that volunteers restored to acts of intimidation. The incidents reportedly occurred in Fairview, Quezon City, Mandaluyong and Makati. One incident at San Jose elementary school in Guadalupe, Makati, involved the key to the ballot boxes. The school principal narrated the incident:

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] and then about 2 o'clock when I went out. [words indistinct], the chairman there told me that the Unido inspector left and (?hid) the list of voters [word indistinct]. And then I asked: Where is the key of [words indistinct]. It was in the hand of the Unido inspector. And then I went around to all the precincts. I found out that in almost all the precincts the key of the ballot box is in the possession [words indistinct] of the Unido inspector. [words indistinct] How can you open the ballot box when [words indistinct]? [end recording]

Another complaint aired yesterday was the presence of [word indistinct] Namfrel in several precincts. Comelec rules that only one Namfrel representative must be on duty in particular polling places. Comelec Commissioner Ramon Felipe explained however that the board of election inspectors [words indistinct] may allow the presence of more than one Namfrel representative.

[Felipe recording indistinct]

COMELEC COMMISSIONER OPINION ASSAILS NAMFREL

HK100514 Queson City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Comelec Commissioner Jaime Opinion assailed Namfrel for causing confusion in unofficials tabulations. He said Namfrel violated the agreement it had forced with the Comelec.

[Begin Opinion recording] Namfrel had admitted that it has violated the agreement with the Comelec, and there have not done anything in order to live by this agreement. It is unfortunate that this has happened because Namfrel claims that it is committed to clean, orderly, and honest elections. If it is so, then why have they initiated this tally of the votes in violated of our agreement and without using the hard copies that can protect the integrity of these results and instead they continued to balloon their tabulations, ending only in confusing our people as to the results. [end recording]

NAMFREL ADMITS SOME 'HONEST MISTAKES'

HK090328 Hong Kong AFP in English 0313 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 9 (AFP) -- A private watchdog group tallying the results of Friday's Philippine presidential election today announced they have made some "honest mistakes" and that previously announced figures would be brought down shortly.

Officials of the National Citizens Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) said at the central monitoring center here that the error was unlikely to affect the lead of opposition presidential Candidate Corazon Aquino over President Ferdinand Marcos. One official said they have made "some honest mistakes within one percent of tallying" and that "there will be a drop in some figures" appearing on its giant tally boards. The official did not specify.

Namfrel is staging one of two parallel "quick counts" of the returns, whose official canvass by the National Assembly is to start tomorrow. "We're checking and rechecking. Our volunteers have made mistakes," the Namfrel official said.

EMPLOYEES AT VOTING CENTER PROTEST CHEATING

NC091504 Paris AFP in English 1502 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 9 (AFP) -- About 20 computer operators today walked out of a government center here for a quick count of votes cast in Friday's Philippine presidential election, saying they were being employed to cheat, eyewitnesses said.

"We are being used to cheat," one of the operators, a woman in her 20's told reporters as the group headed for the exit of a convention hall amid cheers from opposition supporters in the public gallery. A number were in tears, and Comelec officials and security men who saw the walkout were stunned, the witnesses said. The group that walked out was working for an unofficial count by the government's Commission on Elections, which had been showing opposition candidate Corazon Aquino in the lead today until a Comelec commissioner announced that President Ferdinand Marcos was in the lead.

Immediately after the announcement, Comelec amended a display to show Mr. Marcos had overtaken the opposition candidate. At 1400 GMT today, the Comelec count showed Mr. Marcos with 3.06 million votes to 2.9 million for Mrs. Aquino.

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